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LEGEND OF THE OCEAN

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NMC gets 6-year accreditation

DENNIS B. CHAN

Northern Marianas College's Board of Regents chair Frank Rabauliman and acting president Jacqueline Che wait to begin the news briefing yesterday. NMC has been granted initial accreditation under the WASC Senior College and University Commission.

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

With a banner draped behind them reading "BELIEVE," Northern Marianas College officials announced yesterday that the institution has been approved a six-year accreditation with the WASC Senior College and University Commission, which now allows it to expand its offering of four-year degree programs.

» College now authorized to offer four-year business degree

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ALL EYES TODAY ON SENATE FOR SAIPAN CASINO LAW FIX BILL

Inos withdraws 3 noms to Casino Commission

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

» Saipan delegation more than 60 percent done with review

Gov. Eloy S. Inos withdrew yesterday afternoon his three nominations to the regulatory Casino Commission, on the eve of today's Senate vote on a controversial bill that seeks to fix ambiguities in the Saipan casino law.

The governor withdrew his nominations of former sena-

See INOS on Page 4

Land lease signed for 300-room hotel in San Antonio

» HK-based Honest Profit also turns in $100K security deposit to DPL

» DPL still weighs options for Marpi lots

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Hong Kong-based Honest Profit International Ltd. signed a lease agreement with the Department of Public Lands yesterday for 40,087 square meters of land in San Antonio where it plans to build a $130-million, 300-room hotel.

The lease is for 25 years, with an optional 15-year extension for a total of 40 years.

"This is a first major project [on Saipan] in a long time," Gov. Eloy S. Inos said at the ceremony.

DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio also received from HPIL president Sam Chan a $100,000 check as security deposit—a new requirement among investors eyeing major developments such as hotels and golf courses.

The security deposit would cover for any unpaid land rental should any investor pulls out from their project, given previous experiences wherein investors disappeared after groundbreaking with unpaid land rentals.

The governor and the DPL sec-

See LAND on Page 4

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Department of Public Lands Secretary Pete A. Tenorio prepares to sign yesterday a land lease agreement with Honest Profit International Ltd. represented by its president Sam Chan, right, that will pave the way for the Hong Kong-based firm to build a $130 million, 300-room hotel in San Antonio. Looking on is Gov. Eloy S. Inos, left.

Fitial appears in court again; submits waiver of extradition. PAGE 3
Could photo be missing clue to Earhart's disappearance? PAGE 8

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Local

NMC-CREES aids research on honeybees in CNMI

By DENNIS B. CHAN
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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College Cooperative, Research, Education, and Extensions Services recently assisted the University of Guam in its research on the health and abundance of honeybees in the Commonwealth.

NMC-CREES staff Robert Deleon Guerrero and Lee Roy Sablan both helped Christopher Rosario, a research assistant at UOG's Entomology Lab, in going around Saipan taking samples from domestic and feral bee colonies to test them for diseases and parasites.

In Guam, Rosario's research tests honeybees for parasitic varroa mite, a mite that can kill an entire bee colony if untreated. The mite has decimated colonies throughout the U.S. mainland and Hawaii.

The three studied feral honeybee hives on Saipan from May 13 to 15 and also on June 18, as part of the National Honeybee Health Survey.

"The task was to locate hives around the island, whether at residential or jungle areas, and once a hive is located, we assist Chris Rosario in taking a sample of bees from the hive," said Deleon Guerrero.

The biggest challenge, Deleon Guerrero said, was wearing the bee suit. "The suit is a full body suit so it is hot, in addition to Saipan's weather. You sweat a lot but to me I enjoy fieldwork. One of the best experiences handling the bees was getting a glimpse of the queen bee. There's only one queen bee amongst thousands of other bees swarming and flying around. It is very, very rare to see it, as the worker bees are constantly protecting her closely, and she's quite a beauty."

Besides being hot, the suit is also no guarantee that you won't be stung, Sablan said.

Rosario said he was astonished at the number of honeybees found on Saipan. He surveyed many hives and collected composite samples from two feral hives. He sent the samples to the University of Maryland Bee Research Lab to get them tested for parasites, pest, and viruses.

Guerrero said they found many feral beehives around or close to the Saipan airport. Some feral beehives were on ironwood trees along Beach Road, while vacant and hollow telephone poles were some of the places that sampling was done.

Rosario continued to Tinian as well where his work focused on mapping out feral hives only. Using a global positioning system device, he was able to map out seven feral hives and one domestic hive.

He returned to Saipan on June 18 where he was again was assisted by Deleon Guerrero and Sablan.

He was also able to contact local honeybee keeper Rosiky Camacho and collected samples from his bee farm. The samples were sent to the NHBS Research lab to check how healthy Camacho's bees are.

Rosario also collected samples from another feral hive using a bee vacuum he made.

Dr. Ross Miller, an entomologist at the University of Guam's Western Pacific Tropical Research Center, suggests that if Guam can be declared a varroa-free zone, beekeepers on the island may be able to fill the market demand for queen bees that are certified free from the infesting mite.

Rosario places the collected samples in a special bee box, which is then freeze blasted, packaged with ice, and sent to the U.S. mainland via DHL.

According to him, this process is better than placing the bees in alcohol because tests on viruses and diseases can still be conducted.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Christopher Rosario, right, a research assistant at the University of Guam's Entomology Lab, went around Saipan taking samples from domestic and feral bee colonies to test them for diseases and parasites.

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Charges: Russian stole data from restaurants, zoo

SEATTLE (AP)—A Russian man recently arrested on bank fraud and other charges hacked into computers at restaurants in Western Washington, hundreds of other retail businesses, and even the Phoenix Zoo, U.S. authorities allege.

Roman Valerevich Seleznev appeared in court in Guam on Monday and was ordered detained until a hearing July 22. The 30-year-old Moscow man was arrested by the U.S. Secret Service over the weekend, according to documents filed in federal court in Seattle.

Seleznev, known by the underground name "Track2," carried out a scheme to hack into retailers' computers, install malicious software and steal credit card numbers from 2009 to 2011, according to an indictment unsealed Monday.

He is accused of marketing and selling those stolen credit card numbers on "criminally inspired websites" and using servers in Virginia, Russia, Ukraine and other parts of the world to help carry out the scheme.

In March 2011, a grand jury in Washington state indicted Seleznev on charges of bank fraud, obtaining information from a protected computer, aggravated identity theft, trafficking in unauthorized access devices and possessing stolen credit card numbers. Seleznev also is charged in a similar but separate indictment in Nevada.

The Washington indictment accuses him of hacking into computers at the Broadway Grill in Seattle and stealing 32,000 unique credit card numbers between December 2009 and October 2010.

Seleznev is also accused of stealing credit card data from "hundreds of retail businesses" throughout the U.S.

BECQ active on site inspections for illegal pesticide products

The Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality has been vigorous in conducting site inspections to crack down on the sale of illegally imported misbranded, unregistered pesticides and pesticide devices in the Commonwealth.

BECQ staff have been diligently inspecting distributors, retailers and wholesalers to ensure that illegal pesticide products are not on store shelves for resale to the public. Over the last month, a number of businesses have been issued notice of violations as well as violation fines due to the failure of businesses in removing these illegal products promptly. Just several weeks ago, BECQ issued another hefty violation fine of $3,000.00 to a retailer for the importation and resale of illegal unregistered pesticide devices.

BECQ administrator Frank Rabauliman is reminding all distributors, retailers, and wholesalers that all pesticide products to be imported, sold, or used in the Commonwealth must have the required labeling that conforms to US EPA requirements. He encourages businesses to take immediate action to remove illegal pesticides from their storefronts or establishments to avoid hefty violation fines and fees.

"The importation, sale and use of illegal pesticides puts the health and safety of our communities at risk," Rabauliman said. "Store owners and wholesalers have a responsibility to make sure the pesticide chemicals and devices they import and sell have the required EPA labels."

Before a pesticide product is registered, the producer of the product must provide data from tests conducted according to Environmental Protection Agency guidelines to ensure that the product will not be harmful to people's health or natural resources. EPA examines the ingredients and the way in which the product will be used and assesses a wide variety of potential human health and environmental effects associated with its use. Distributors and retailers are responsible for ensuring that all pesticides distributed and sold fully comply with the law.

Under CNMI pesticide regulation, it is also unlawful for any person within the CNMI to offer to deliver to another person any pesticide that is unregistered, misbranded, banned, or cancelled.

For more information about the status of legality of a pesticide, contact the Pesticide Program at 664-8500/11 or send an email to storagetankspesticides@deq.gov.mp . You are also encouraged to visit www.deq.gov.mp for general information about pesticides or to download the pesticide regulations. ***(BECQ)***

Fitial appears in court again; submits waiver of extradition

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Former governor Benigno R. Fitial appeared in Superior Court yesterday for a case management hearing in connection with the criminal charges filed against him and submitted his waiver of extradition proceedings.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman gave the Office of the Public Auditor until July 18 to submit its response to Fitial's motion to dismiss the charges.

Fitial was given until July 22 to reply to OPA's response.

A hearing on the motion will be held on July 23 at 1:30pm.

Fitial, 68, came to court walking with a cane. He was assisted by his wife, Josefina. Some family members, relatives, and supporters watched the brief hearing.

In an interview with reporters after the hearing, Fitial's counsel, Stephen Nutting, reiterated their position in the written motion that the Legislature had no authority to grant the public auditor the power to prosecute a criminal complaint, especially when that power is afforded by the CNMI Constitution to the attorney general.

In a separate interview, OPA legal counsel George L. Hasselback said he disagrees with the assertions made in Fitial's motion to dismiss, but that they will be researching the questions of law it brought up and draft a response for the court.

FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Josefina Fitial assists her husband, former governor Benigno R. Fitial, as they emerge from the courtroom of Superior Court Associate Judge David Wiseman after a case management hearing in his criminal case yesterday afternoon.

At yesterday's hearing, Nutting handed Wiseman Fitial's statement of rights and waiver of extradition proceedings.

In that statement and waiver, Fitial said he understands that by waiving his right to formal proceedings as a condition of his release, he is agreeing to voluntarily return to the CNMI without the necessity of any extradition proceeding.

"I understand that by waiving extradition, I may be held in custody by law enforcement in any another state, territory of other foreign jurisdiction, including but not limited to the Republic of the Philippines' law enforcement agencies until authorities from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands comes to get me to bring me back to the Commonwealth to face the charges presently pending," Fitial said.

The former governor said the waiver is not an admission of guilt. He said he merely agrees to return to the CNMI with any peace officer who may be sent to take him to the CNMI for trial in the case.

OPA's complaint charges Fitial with 13 criminal charges related to the unauthorized release of a federal inmate, award of a sole-source American Recovery and Reinvestment Act contract, the shielding of former attorney general Edward T. Buckingham from being served with penal summons, and the execution of a power purchase agreement contract related to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

Fitial supports Saipan casino law

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Former governor Benigno R. Fitial expressed support yesterday to the government's efforts to put up a casino on Saipan.

"I am for casino. I'm for economic development," said Fitial when asked by Saipan Tribune for comment on the casino issue.

The former governor said that people, especially the retirees, need their money.

"We need resources and casino is a very, very huge resource," said Fitial in the interview outside the courtroom of Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman where he attended a case management conference in his case.

The House of Representatives passed Tuesday a bill repealing and reenacting the Saipan casino law to clarify its ambiguities, among other things.

Asked if he favors one or two casinos on Saipan, Fitial said that whatever the casino law says, just "follow the law."

Fitial returned to the islands from the Philippines on Saturday. He will return to the Philippines on Sunday to continue his medical rehabilitation.

"I still have my rehab," he said, adding that his health is getting better because he's having rehabilitation every week.

Fitial said he used to have a balancing difficulty but is now doing well.

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High surf advisory cancelled

The high surf advisory for the CNMI has been cancelled.

According to the CNMI Homeland Security and Emergency Management, the long period west swell from Typhoon Neoguri has lowered enough to allow surf to decrease below hazardous levels. Expect surf to decrease to 5 to 7 feet today, Thursday.

The public and mariners are urged to continue to exercise caution along reef lines and beaches, especially along west facing shores as dangerous rip currents can still occur. ***(PR)***

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Inos signs $2.7M funding law for Saipan projects

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos signed into local law yesterday a bill appropriating more than $2.717 million in bond funds and associated interests for capital improvement projects on Saipan such as for road paving, buying school buses, hospital bed replacements and equipment purchases.

This comes five months after the governor informed Saipan lawmakers of the availability of such funds.

The governor signed House Local Bill 18-51, Draft 1 into Saipan Local Law 18-17 in the presence yesterday afternoon of Rep. Antonio Agulto (Ind-Saipan) and agencies that will benefit from the funding, including the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp., the Public School System, and Carolinian Affairs Office.

Before signing the bill, Inos gave the agencies a rundown of what the administration expects in terms of the procurement process including soliciting bids.

"These programs cannot be reprogrammed. They cannot be used for other purposes," he told the agencies present.

Inos also said the Commonwealth Development Authority is an integral part of the process.

Of the total $2.717 million, $250,000 goes to CHC for the purchase of new beds for the hospital.

Another $250,000 goes to PSS for the purchase of two new 66-passenger school buses.

Precinct I would get $400,000 for its various capital improvement-related projects.

Precinct II, meanwhile, would get $380,000 for capital improvement and development projects.

The new local law also appropriates $450,000 for Precinct III, for the construction of a small amphitheater and related facilities at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan and for various roads and drainage projects.

Precinct IV has a $273,969 share of the funding for its various CIPs.

Precinct V, meanwhile, would get $600,000 to pave Kagman roads, among other things.

Agulto said the bill started out as an appropriation measure for Precinct V but when the governor announced the availability of $2.7 million for appropriation, the Precinct V proposal became a part of a bigger bill.

The Saipan Mayor's Office will get $100,000 for the purchase of heavy equipment. Mayor Marian Tudela and Henry Hofschneider, along with other mayor's officer representatives, were at the bill signing.

The governor said the mayor's office now has half-million dollars to buy heavy equipment. The other $400,000 is from the U.S. Interior's Office of Insular Affairs.

Saipan Southern High School would also get $50,000 for its baseball field.

The expenditure authority of the funds is the Department of Public Works secretary, Martin Sablan, who was also present at the signing ceremony.

LAND

From Page 1

retary noted HPIL's partnership with local contractors, including N15 Architects, the law office of Robert Torres, and a local accounting and finance firm represented at the ceremony by Mike Johnson.

Chan said they would be building a 5-star hotel. HPIL is going beyond the minimum 200-room requirement of DPL's request for proposal.

This lease agreement is a result of DPL's first issuance of an RFP for available lands in 2013. The land is located near Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio, the same spot previously leased but was later abandoned by KSA Corp.

DPL said for the first three years, Honest Profit's rent will be based on the appraised value of the property as of May 2014, which is $1.674 million. The rent is 1 percent of that, or $16,740.

On the fourth year, the rent is at 2 percent of the appraised value or 1 percent of business gross, whichever is greater. The percentage increases every five years up to 3 percent on the last five years of the 25-year period.

The process for issuing out the RFP, reviewing the bids, selecting the winning bidders and negotiating a land lease deal took about a year, Tenorio said.

HPIL's Chan said the groundbreaking is set for September. The governor said he also looks forward to the ribbon cutting ceremony.

The hotel construction and other improvements, according to DPL, could take 48 months or approximately up to December 2018.

This comes at a time when Saipan needs additional guest rooms to accommodate a growing number of tourists.

Marpi

Meanwhile, as of yesterday, DPL has yet to decide whether to issue another RFP or go to the second and then third best bidder for a public land in Marpi, also for hotel development.

This follows winning bidder Tan Holdings' May 14 letter to DPL stating that it is withdrawing its interest from leasing almost 10 hectares of public lands in Marpi. It now plans to build a new hotel on private lands instead, also in Marpi.

On June 5, DPL's Tenorio offered the available Marpi public land to second best bidder E-Land but as of yesterday, the South Korean giant has yet to respond to DPL's letter. E-Land earlier told DPL that it still needs to talk to its officers in South Korea.

E Land's Micronesia Resort Inc. owns three hotels on Saipan, including Pacific Islands Club, Coral Ocean Point, and the former The Palms Resort that will reopen under the global Sheraton brand.

Tenorio said the third best bidder for the Marpi public land is Honest Profit International Ltd., which just signed a lease for the San Antonio public land.

He said other options would be to issue another RFP, or keep the Marpi public lands idle for now.

Two investors applying for a license to exclusively develop a minimum $2 billion integrated casino resort on Saipan have been checking out possible locations for their project should they become a casino license holder. Earlier, officials asked them to consider private lands first before setting their sights on public lands.

But with almost 10 hectares of Marpi public lands possibly freed up again, this may be another potential site for a casino.

Another beachfront location eyed is the current site of Hopwood Junior High School, which needs to be relocated at the investor's expense if it is found as a suitable spot for at least a 2,000-room integrated casino resort.

NMC

From Page 1

"We are happy to announce that we received notice from [the Western Association of Schools and Colleges] yesterday morning and they have granted us initial accreditation for six years," said acting NMC president Jacqueline Che. "Also, they have approved our proposal to offer a bachelor's of business management this fall 2014 semester."

The room erupted in cheers and applause after the announcement.

The college's accreditation used to be under WASC's Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges.

The new accreditation under the Senior Commission now allows the college to offer more four-year degree programs. Right now, its only four-year degree program is the bachelor's degree in education.

In its letter to the college, the Senior Commission commended NMC's dedicated faculty, staff, and administrators for their commitment to the success of their students despite the financially pressed and geographically-isolated environment of the college.

The six-year accreditation requires the college to submit only one interim report, according to Amanda Allen, NMC's accreditation liaison officer and director of Distance Education.

The report will address four areas that the college is committed to build upon: faculty roles and development, research and data-supported decisions, assessment of learning, and student success.

Allen said that while there is a new bachelor's degree being offered, the college retains its core identity as community college. She said the college's bachelor's degree in business management along with its bachelor's degree in education "will just be one step up."

"We're not changing our identity, we're just growing."

Che noted that while colleges usually take fours years to gain initial accreditation, the college did so in less than four months.

Within a month after receiving affirmation of its accreditation with the Junior Commission, the college quickly set the foundation to move toward the Senior Commission, submitting its subsidy report in March, hosting a site visit in April, and yesterday morning receiving news of its affirmed accreditation.

Che thanked the "amazing community of faculty, staff, and students who worked so hard to be a part of this."

"It was definitely a team effort," Allen said.

Board of Regents chair Frank Rabauliman said it is interesting to look back at the events leading up to their success, noting that after U.S. Department of Education's citation against NMC for its dual accreditation last year, the college worked first to reaffirm itself under ACCJC, and then secondly move forwards in its transition to the Senior Commission.

He thanked his fellow board members for their decision to go ahead with the implementation of a new four-year bachelor's degree in business management. The degree will be available to current and new students this fall semester.

For access to the Senior Commission action letter, see the Resource Documents page at www.marianas.edu.

INOS

From Page 1

tor Maria Frica T. Pangelinan, businessman David C. Sablan, and former Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Alvaro A. Santos.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when sought for comment, said two of the three nominees—Pangelinan and Santos—declined their appointment to the commission.

The Casino Commission is supposed to come up with regulations and regulate the casino industry, among other things. A separate body, the Lottery Commission, has only two functions: to review the casino applications and decide whether to award an exclusive license or not and to whom.

Rep. Ray Tebuteb (Ind-Saipan), chairman of the 21-member Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, said yesterday it's the administration's "prerogative" to withdraw or recall its nominations.

"The ad-hoc committee is more than 60 percent done with the nominations' review," Tebuteb said in a phone interview.

Tebuteb said the withdrawal may be "in anticipation of the passage of House Bill 18-195" at the Senate, two days after the House passed it by a vote of 15-3.

Demapan said the governor withdrew his three nominations "because the 90-day expiration is coming up and no hearings have been scheduled yet."

Inos sent the nominations to the Saipan delegation on April 17, almost three months ago.

"Additionally, Ms. Pangelinan and Mr. Sablan have regretfully declined their nominations. Governor Inos will submit his nominations anew in the coming days," Demapan told *Saipan Tribune*.

The governor's appointments to the Casino Commission are subject to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation's advice and consent.

Senate vote

Meanwhile, all eyes will be on the Senate today as it takes up a House bill repealing and reenacting the Saipan casino law to fix its ambiguities.

Clyde Norita and Gregorio "Kazuma" Camacho are urging retirees and former defined benefit plan members to show up at the Senate at 2pm today to persuade senators to pass HB 18-195, HD1.

Retirees believe that the bill's enactment will pave the way for the award of an exclusive Saipan casino license and the release of $30 million for payments of retirees' 25 percent pension and former defined benefit plan members' accrued contribution interest.

The governor, in a separate interview yesterday, said he's pleased with the House's passage of the bill on Tuesday and hopes that the Senate will also pass the measure.

"Obviously it shows that the members who dissented previously have changed their minds and hopefully it was a result of, after due deliberation, and showing of support by community members, that they've actually changed their mind and now voted for the legislation," Inos said yesterday.

The original Saipan casino bill passed the Senate by a vote of 5-4 early this year. There's no telling whether the same voting record will happen in today's voting on the bill to fix the Saipan casino law anew.

'Do not pass it'

Concerned citizen Glen Hunter, in a letter to senators yesterday, asked them to vote "no" to HB 18-195 and instead allow Saipan voters to "decide on the future of Saipan."

"The voters of both Tinian and Rota were afforded this same opportunity in respect to altering our CNM Constitution and allowing casino gaming. While you may believe that passing HB 18-195 is a solution, that is not true and it just compounds the problems. The ends do not justify the means and on a matter as large as changing our CNMI Constitution the voice of the voters needs to be heard," Hunter said.

Hunter said HB 18-195's passage is a "sad attempt to pull the wool over the faces of the same people who voted you into office."

"The 'repeal and re-enactment' trick will negate the referendum signed by over 4,000 voters. Have you ever done such a thing before? Why would you stoop to such tricks now?" Hunter said.

Inos said he intends to immediately sign HB 18-195 once it reaches his office.

'Legal mess'

While HB 18-195 will kill the referendum, the argument that HB 18-195 will side-skirt legal challenges that currently sit in court and stop any other legal challenges "is not accurate," said Hunter, one of the individuals who sued the government over the Saipan casino law.

He pointed out that the Saipan casino law "is a legal mess."

"Aside from currently being the focus of three ongoing court cases, it will still be subject to many more challenges. The most paramount has yet to reach the court system. That legal challenge is whether the Legislature had the right to alter the constitutional ban without a vote from the people. Such a legal challenge will bog down any advancement of the SCA for months or more likely years and will eventually have to be heard in the CNMI Supreme Court. The precedent set by the passage of the SCA has put all CNMI Constitutional provisions in jeopardy," he added.

He said if Saipan casino gaming is "paramount" in their mind, lawmakers should pass a legislative initiative that asks Saipan voters if they would like to allow casino gaming on Saipan.

"It can be placed on the November ballot and the solution can be seen in just a matter of four short months. This will halt all lawsuits and create a stable environment. This will also send a strong message to the people of Saipan and the rest of the CNMI that their voice matters," he added.

Another concerned citizen, Leila Staffler, submitted petitions to reject the Saipan casino and electronic gaming laws with over 4,200 signatures on Monday. Once the petition and signatures are validated and certified to have met requirements, the question will be placed before voters in November.

Habitual offender gets 1 year in prison for throwing rocks

Nestor Camacho Taitano, a habitual offender who was arrested in March for throwing rocks at a store and threatening to kill people, was slapped with a one-year prison term yesterday.

Citing Taitano's long criminal history, Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman called the 39-year-old Taitano a "menace to society" who deserves the maximum prison term.

Wiseman sentenced Taitano to a total of one year in prison, for two counts of assault and one count of disturbing the peace.

Taitano will serve prison term day for day without the possibility of parole, early release, weekend release, or similar programs.

After completing his sentence, Taitano will be placed on supervised probation for five years. He was ordered to pay a $200 fine, $25 court costs, and $500 in probation fees. He was required to perform 200 hours of community service and pay restitution to Jin Lin Store in Dandan. The amount will be determined later.

Taitano was required to report to the Community Guidance Center for anger management counseling and other recommended treatment.

He was also ordered to submit to the Community Guidance Center for an evaluation focusing on alcohol and drug assessment treatment.

The Office of the Attorney General had charged Taitano with two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon, one count of criminal mischief, three counts of assault, and two counts of disturbing the peace.

Taitano and counsel, assistant public defender Matthew Meyer, signed a plea deal with the government, represented by assistant attorney general Chemere McField.

Taitano pleaded guilty to two counts of assault and one count of disturbing the peace. As part of the deal, the government dropped the remaining charges.

According to the plea agreement, on March 14, 2014, Taitano threw large rocks and hollow blocks at the glass door of the Jin Li Store in Dandan. He then entered the store and threw large rocks and hollow blocks at the cashier and a customer.

At an arraignment hearing on April 14, Taitano cursed at Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja.

As a court marshal escorted him out of the courtroom, Taitano badmouthed the marshal and became belligerent. Other marshals came to the aid of the court marshal and a Department of Corrections officer.

Police learned that Taitano had threatened to kill his mother, some family members, and everyone else. He also allegedly made a threat that he would kill U.S. District Court Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Mayor's office revises procedures for revenue generating sections

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Saipan Mayor's Office is currently upgrading and revising its policies for sections under its office that generate revenue.

The office is now reviewing policies for the sections on marriage, municipality ID, Saipan Dog Control Program, and others.

According to the mayor's special adviser, Henry Hofschneider, this will require the applicants to pay the required fees by themselves at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe.

"They have to come in with the receipt, and it has to be the original version of the receipt. That original copy, for example, will be provided to the marriage license [section] before the mayor signs the marriage license over," Hofschneider said.

The Mayor's Office earlier posted signs in June that the office does not accept payments for marriage fees due to an ongoing investigation that has yet to be resolved.

Hofschneider said the application process will continue the way it is.

Saipan Mayor Marian Tudela said that several of the procedures for applications are being revised.

"One of our staff has already shown me a revision of the application for the marriage section," Tudela said.

She said this will help the operation run smoothly, with no concerns or complaints from any applicant.

Hofschneider said this will also put in more controls, protect the public, and stop any doubts on the mishandling of applications.

"All along, the Mayor's Office has never been authorized to receive cash payments from any applicant," Hofschneider said.

He said they will be working with the Division of Treasury and Office of the Commonwealth Recorder at Guma Hustisia.

He noted, though, that they have asked Gov. Eloy S. Inos about having a cashier at the Mayor's Office. This would help do away with people going to another area to pay and then returning back to the Mayor's Office.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

2014 CariPac Summer Internship Program

The Northern Marianas College – Cooperative Research and Extension Education Services is inviting incoming junior and senior high school students to apply for the 2014 CariPac Summer Internship Program on Saipan and Tinian. The program starts July 28 and ends on Aug. 22. The deadline for submitting applications is July 11, 2014, at 4:30pm. For more information call 237-6844 or 6855.

Applications can be picked up at the CREES Administrative Offices on Saipan and Tinian or downloaded from www.crees.org. ***(NMC)***

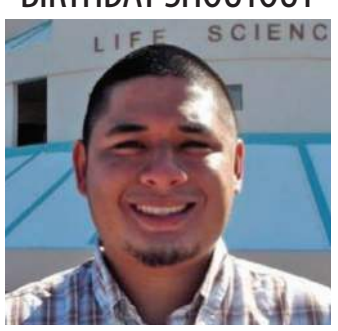
MHS Class of '89 reunion

Marianas High School Class of 1989 will be celebrating its 25th reunion with a family picnic and a dinner banquet. The family picnic will be at the Filcom Pavilion, Civic Center, on Saturday, July 12, 2014, starting at 10:30am. The dinner banquet will be on Saturday, July 19, 2014, at the Coral Ocean Point banquet room from 6pm to 10pm. The MHS Class of '89 25th Reunion Committee invites all Class of 1989 of Marianas High School and Mount Carmel School to celebrate its Swinging Silver '89 Jubilee Year. ***(PR)***

CNMI Baseball Team to host dinner show fundraiser

The Saipan Baseball League Board invites everyone to their final Micronesian Games fundraiser, a dinner show, today, July 10, 2014, from 6pm to 11pm, at the Central Park in Garapan, next to Gold's Gym. Tickets are $10 each. All beverages will be on sale at $2 each. Raffle tickets will also be on sale for a chance to win great prices! Proceeds of this fundraiser will benefit the CNMI National Baseball Team's room and board expenses while In Pohnpei. You may purchase your ticket(s) from any of the following SBL board members: Rose Igitol (287-1129), Tony Rogolifoi (285-3966/234-6672), Bernard Cabrera (287-7252), and AJ Murig (989-0640), or from any of the National Team members. ***(PR)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT



Happy birthday to our brother, Robert "Da Natural" Deleon Guerrero! May the Lord continue to bless you and make sure you enjoy your special day. Your accomplishments, talents, and positive vibes always keep us smiling proudly. Keep on shining! Much love from your family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Zoning urges swift passage of blighted property bill

By JAYSON CAMACHO
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A House bill that seeks to require the owners of abandoned, vacant, and blighted properties on Saipan to secure and maintain them has been sitting idle with a Senate committee for nearly two months.

The 24-page House Bill 18-71, titled "Nuisance Abatement and Blighted Property Maintenance Act of 2013," was acted upon by the Senate in the last week of May but was tabled after several senators raised some concerns. It has been returned to the Senate Committee on Resources, Economic Development, and Programs, chaired by Sen. Francisco Borja (Ind-Tinian).

The Saipan Zoning Office has been urging the Senate to pass the bill. The House of Representatives passed it on Feb. 19, 2014, and transmitted it to the Senate five days later.

HB 18-71 was authored by Rep. Larry Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), with the help of the Zoning Office to further clarify conditions of such properties, their maintenance, and enforcement procedures. Deleon Guerrero introduced the bill on May 9, 2013.

In an Aug. 26, 2013, letter to Rep. Anthony T. Benavente (Ind-Saipan), chairman of the House Committee on Natural Resources, Zoning Administrator Therese Ogumoro expressed the board and office's full support of the bill's intent, together with some proposed revisions.

In a separate letter to Senate President Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) and Borja on June 4, Ogumoro said, "While we had tried to vocally address the concerns raised by your members, we believe that the bill addresses the island of Saipan exclusively, and therefore should be reviewed by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation."

"We may explore other options such as working with the bill's author to possibly reintroduce the same bill at the House and refer it to the Saipan delegation," she said.

Ogumoro said that Zoning has "exhausted all efforts" in following up with the Senate to expedite the bill's passage.

According to Ogumoro, one concern raised by Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan) during the May session was that the bill did not address government buildings and properties that have also been abandoned or not maintained.

Ogumoro explained that the bill includes all properties on Saipan, but that one section was not specific to include the word "government", which she asked Reyes to include as a floor amendment.

Another concern raised by Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) was how the money collected from the fines would be used.

Ogumoro had explained that the bill specifically stated that revenue collected from fines will be used to enforce the provisions of the bill. She clarified to senators that detailed expenses shall be provided to the Legislature annually.

HB 18-71 states that owners who fail to maintain their properties would be subject to a "minimum" of $200 for the first offense. Subsequent offenses will go up to $1,000 per day. It also states that "this fund shall be available for use by the Commonwealth Zoning Office without further appropriation."

Some senators think the fines are too steep, though.

Ogumoro explained that the bill's aim is not to make money out of people or businesses but to encourage owners of these properties to be responsible in cleaning their properties to promote a clean, safe, and aesthetically comfortable environment.

Still another issue the Senate raised was that the bill is restrictive on property owners and does not give time to improve the land to avoid paying fines.

Ogumoro said the bill requires a warning notice to be issued to the property owner for 60 days before any penalties are imposed. "That should be a very reasonable time to make necessary improvements."

"It is not a perfect bill but with minor changes made on the floor, the lawmakers could have passed it and given it a chance," Ogumoro told *Saipan Tribune*.

Ogumoro shared that, since the Zoning law's inception in 2007, members of the Legislature have been asking the Zoning Office what actions have been taken on abandoned properties and buildings.

"This bill is our 'action' and we hope they also act to pass it and move it forward to the governor" she said.

Ogumoro also shared that the bill will address concerns raised during the public outreach meetings held by the Zoning Office where members of the public would also ask about actions taken on the abandoned properties.

"The public has been asking what we are doing about the problems and have raised concerns of their children's safety around their own neighborhoods, and we had been asking them for their patience as we await passage of a bill from the Senate to address them. But it's been months now and still no action yet." Ogumoro said.

Blighted properties can create an increased risk to the community from unsecured or open doors and windows, broken water pipes, theft of metals and other materials, overgrowth of grass, weeds, shrubs, and bushes, illegal dumping, and rodent and vermin activity.

NORTHERN MARIANAS JUDICIARY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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For more information, contact the Northern Mariana Islands Judiciary Historical Society at 236-9805.

Man gets two years in prison for stealing from 2 neighbors

A man was slapped with a two-year prison term for burglarizing and stealing several items, including 14 typhoon shutters, from his two neighbors on Saipan.

Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa K. Kim-Tenorio sentenced Pedro Castro Manalo Jr. on Tuesday to four years in prison, all suspended except for two years, for two counts of theft.

Kim-Tenorio ordered the 28-year-old Manalo to serve the prison term day for day without the possibility of parole, early release, weekend release, or other similar programs.

Manalo was given credit for 27 days of time served in jail. After completing the prison term, he will be placed on supervised probation for two years. He was required to pay a $200 fine, plus $100 in court costs and $200 in probation fees.

During the period of probation, the defendant will be prohibited from consuming or possessing any alcoholic beverages or controlled substance.

The Office of the Attorney General charged Manalo with two counts of burglary and two counts of theft in one case. In the second case, the OAG charged him with one count of theft.

Manalo entered a plea agreement with the government. He pleaded guilty to one count of theft each in both cases. As part of the deal, moved to dismiss the remaining charges. The court granted the motion.

According to the factual basis of the plea agreement, on Oct. 16, 2013, Manalo unlawfully entered the storage garage of a residence in Finasisu and stole a chain saw, a new unopened chain, a generator, a water pump, a water blaster, green circle tables, white square tables, plastic chairs, and a set of tools.

On Nov. 22, 2013, Manalo stole 14 typhoon shutters valued at approximately $3,000 from a residence in As Lito.

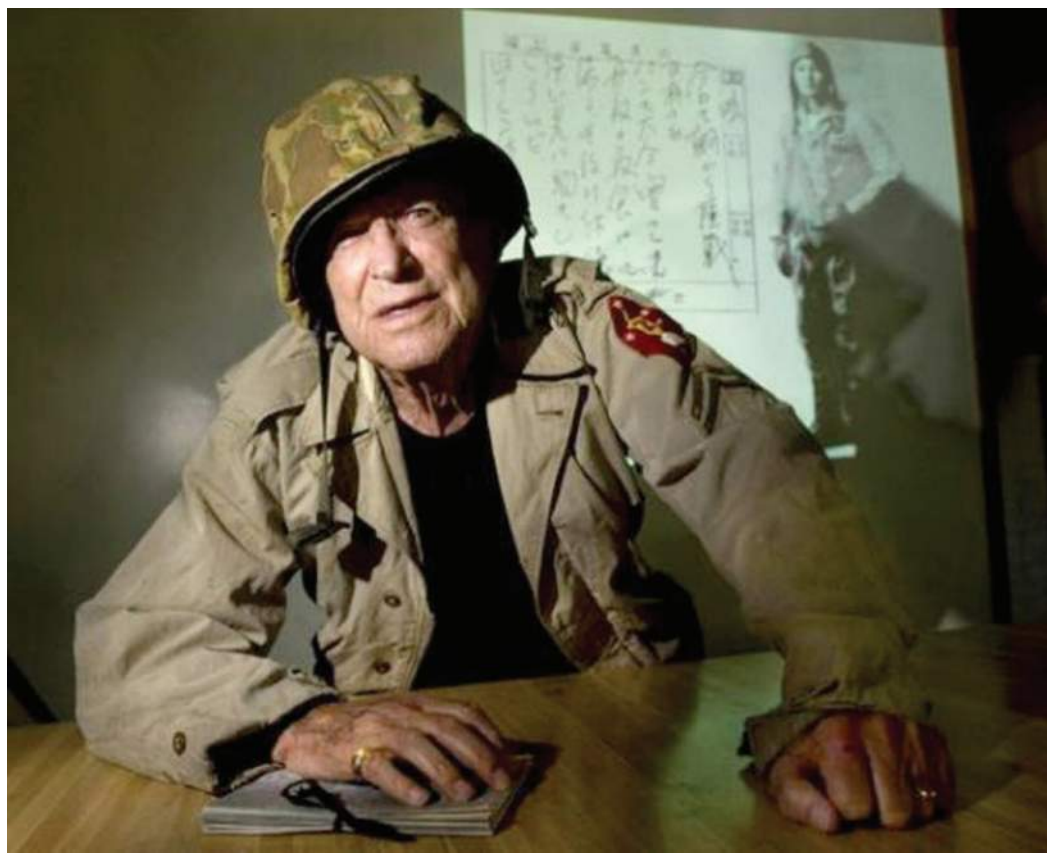
Assistant attorney general James McAllister appeared for the government at the sentencing. Chief public defender Douglas Hartig served as counsel for Manalo.

Detective Catherine B. Pangelinan handled both cases. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Marine's book translates Japanese soldier's WWII diary he found

By REBECCA KHEEL
ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Dick Meadows found Japanese soldier's diary on Saipan in 1944. He couldn't read it, but he kept it.



ANA VENEGAS, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Dick Meadows, 90, of Orange, fought in the battles of Saipan, Tarawa, Tinian and Okinawa as a Marine in World War II. After the battle of Saipan on June 16, 1944, he found a Japanese soldier's diary. The soldier's name was Genkichi Ichikawa, in image at right.

Dick Meadows was scouring the beach on the island of Saipan the morning of June 16, 1944.

He and his fellow U.S. Marines had spent the night before battling hundreds of Japanese soldiers. By morning, Japanese bodies covered the beach. Amid the deceased, Meadows found a Japanese soldier's diary. He couldn't read it, but he kept it.

"You have to understand, we were a bunch of 19- to 25-year-olds; we were souvenir crazy," Meadows said. "I had no idea what it said. As I became more and more mature, I thought, why am I holding on to this thing?"

Now, the diary has been translated and juxtaposed with Meadows' recollections of World War II in a new book, "The Taking of Saipan," from a local publisher. Meadows, 90, now lives in Orange and often shares his war experiences with local churches, high schools and other groups.

Meadows was born in Watertown, S.D., in 1924. Both of his brothers enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1941 and 1942. When they left, they told him to keep out of the war and stay home to take care of their mother.

But Meadows yearned to be a Marine. He recalled an Army recruiter coming to his high school. The recruiter wanted Meadows to join the Army, but he insisted on being a Marine.

There was just one problem: So many people wanted to be a Marine, enlistment had closed. Meadows cried about it to his mother, who, as it turned out, had gone to high school with the town's Marine recruiter. His mother talked with the recruiter, and he thought Meadows might be able to join if they backdated his paperwork to before the closing date. It worked, and Meadows was sent to training in Minneapolis in December 1942.

"I saw an old movie," Meadows said of why the Marines appealed to him. "I thought, 'Boy, that's great.' When I look at it now, I think, 'How horrible.'"

It was while in the Marines that Meadows started exchanging letters with the woman who would become his wife, Winnie. Meadows' brother and Winnie's sister were dating and thought the two would make a good match. The relationship almost died before they met, after Meadows sent her a photo of himself at base camp – he was laying in a cot smoking a cigar wearing nothing but boxers.

"I thought I was going to tear that picture up," Winnie Meadows recalled.

As a Marine, Meadows fought in four battles: Tarawa, Tinian, Okinawa and Saipan.

Controlling Saipan was considered integral to the Allies winning the war, said Doug Westfall, a local historian whose Paragon Agency published "The Taking of Saipan."

"Saipan was everything," Westfall said.

Meadows and his division landed on Saipan on June 15 and immediately skirmished with the Japanese. Sometime overnight, he recalled hearing a bugle followed by a rush of 300 to 500 Japanese soldiers. It was what American forces called a banzai attack, when wave after wave of Japanese soldiers attacked.

During the battle, Meadows ran back and forth from the shore where ammunition and other supplies had been dumped.

"Artillery shells could have dropped anywhere. Thank God they didn't drop where I was," he said. "I don't think I fired a shot. I was too busy carrying ammunition up to the gunners."

The next morning he would get the diary of Genkichi Ichikawa. Finally being able to see it translated 70 years later, Meadows said he now realizes that Ichikawa was a typical man in his 20s like he was.

"He talks about lying in his cot and looking at the moon, and he talks about his son, and he was very homesick," Meadows said. "He seems like he was a pretty nice person."

A few years ago, Meadows returned the diary to the Japanese consulate in Los Angeles. The consulate was able to locate Ichikawa's cousin, who is now in possession of the diary.

One passage that stood out to Meadows and Westfall was about Ichikawa missing his son's birthday.

"Although trying not to think nor write about it today, one year ago was the birth of my son," he wrote. "This poor father cannot celebrate his birthday. Supposedly he would be lonely. I am celebrating far away from home at the battlefield, wondering if he can speak a few words or is walking. It fills my heart. I hope he will have a happy year, and I wish they will be quite well. I will work hard and hope he will grow to welcome me with a smiling face."

Could photo be missing clue to Amelia Earhart's disappearance?

MIAMI HERALD/MCT

Amelia Earhart in a 1937 file image. Researchers hope images from her departure from Miami Municipal Airport may hold clues to her disappearance during an attempted around-the-world flight.

By GLENN GARVIN
THE MIAMI HERALD

MIAMI—The photo is, mostly, unremarkable. It shows an airplane looming darkly on a runway at Miami Municipal Airport in the spectral shadows just before dawn—probably a test as the photographer waited for the money shot moments later, when the aircraft would lift off with famed aviator Amelia Earhart at its controls, unknowingly headed to a mysterious appointment with fate.

Yet the picture—shot by a now-forgotten Miami Herald photographer just before Earhart departed the United States on her doomed flight around the world on June 1, 1937—contains an odd detail visible on none of the other thousands of photos of her plane.

There on the fuselage, about two-thirds of the way from the plane's nose to its tail, is a rectangular patch that shines a peculiar silver on the aircraft's dusky skin. Could it be a clue—the clue—to what happened when Earhart and her navigator Fred Noonan vanished somewhere over the trackless Pacific Ocean three months later?

Longtime Earhart investigator Ric Gillespie thinks so. He believes that the silvery patch reveals an unrecorded repair performed on Earhart's plane during her stopover in Miami. And he hopes that modern computer enhancements of that part of the photo will link it to a piece of possible airplane wreckage discovered a quarter century ago on a tiny Pacific island in the area where Earhart disappeared.

"If we can match a rivet pattern from the repair in the photograph to a rivet pattern on the wreckage, I think it would be beyond dispute that Noonan and Earhart weren't lost at sea, but made it to the island," said Gillespie, the executive director of the International Group for Historic Aircraft Recovery (TIGHAR).

That would bring an indisputable forensic conclusion to one of the greatest and most contentious mysteries in aviation history. It would also mean, possibly, that the tale of Amelia Earhart had an even more tragic end than we have thought all these years—that she died not in a single terrifying instant as her plane crashed into the sea, but in a long torturous spiral of starvation, thirst and disease.

Earhart was one of the world's most famous and admired women when she and Noonan set off from Oakland, Calif., to fly around the globe. She was the first woman to fly across the Atlantic and the first person to fly solo from Honolulu to Oakland. She competed successfully with men in the popular airplane races of the day. And she was a feminist before the word was invented, advocating tirelessly for women to be allowed to pursue careers in aviation or anything else they wanted.

Her first try at flying around the world (heading west rather than east) ended abruptly after the first leg when she crashed on takeoff in Hawaii.

Her second attempt, this time east-bound, also had problems right from the start. She landed at the wrong airport in Miami, in what was then known as the 36th Street Airport (now part of Miami International) rather than the bigger Miami Municipal Airport just south of Opa-locka (now a park named for Earhart). Her landing on May 24, 1937, was rough and she stayed in Miami for a week while the plane underwent repairs.

One of them, it appears, was the removal of a specially installed window in the rear of the airplane that navigator Noonan used to take sightings on the sun and stars, the method by which pilots found their way over unmapped oceans, jungles and desert in the days before radar and GPS. The window is clearly visible in photos of Earhart's plane taken in California at the start of her trip, and even in some Herald photos shot after her arrival in Miami.

But in the photo shot just before her June 1, 1937, takeoff for Puerto Rico, the window is gone, replaced by that odd silvery plate.

"I think the window must have been broken or compromised by the hard landing in Miami," Gillespie said. "It wasn't standard equipment and they found out it would take a while to replace it, so they just took it out and patched the fuselage instead."

From Puerto Rico, Earhart continued through South America, Africa and Asia. On July 2, 1937, as Earhart took off from Lae, New Guinea, and headed for Howland Island nearly 2,600 miles away, her communications suffered a blow. Photos and home movies of the takeoff show that as she taxied down the runway, a radio antenna on the bottom of her plane tore away.

That may be why Earhart was unable to hear Coast Guard crewmen who were trying to make contact with her as she neared Howland Island 19 hours later. "We are circling but cannot see island, cannot hear you," she radioed as the crewmen listened helplessly. A series of increasingly distressed messages continued for another hour and a quarter before Earhart, in a distraught voice, gave her location: "We are on the line of position 157 dash 337. … We are now running north and south."

The rest was silence.

Some Navy and Coast Guard ships began looking for Earhart right away, but the epicenter of the search, Howland Island, is in the middle of nowhere, 1,700 miles from Hawaii, so it took two weeks for the search to acquire much manpower. Search planes passed over a tiny, apostrophe-shaped tiny patch of coral called Gardner Island, about 400 miles away, and spotted signs of recent habitation. But Navy records showed that tribes of Pacific Islanders had been living there, which seemed to explain that, and the planes moved on. The search continued several weeks, but turned up absolutely nothing.

In the 1960s, journalists began searching for Earhart—but their focus was 2,800 miles west of Howland Island, on Saipan, where U.S. Marines fought a vicious battle against Japanese occupational troops during World War II. In the aftermath of the fighting, it was said, American troops had made a grisly discovery that Washington had covered up: that the Japanese had captured Earhart and Noonan and, believing them spies, either executed them or mistreated them so badly they died in prison.

(The Japanese-capture-and-execution theory is actually a variant on a conspiracy theory that swept America during World War II. In that one, Earhart and Noonan were secret agents assigned by the U.S. government to fake their own disappearance, giving the U.S. Navy an excuse to search the Pacific gathering intelligence about Japanese military activity. There was even a Hollywood movie called "Flight for Freedom" starring Rosalind Russell as a thinly disguised version of a spy Earhart. Big problem with the theory: Earhart was a fervid pacifist who despised war after working in a military hospital during World War I.)

It wasn't until the 1980s that modern technology—and perhaps even more importantly, modern fundraising techniques—began making it feasible to mount private searches for Earhart in the area where she disappeared. Using sophisticated underwater radar and deep-sea diving vehicles, groups devoted to the case searched for her plane in the waters around Howland Island, by now deserted. But still no conclusive

Continued on Next Page

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP NO.: RFP14-BECQ-120

SUBMISSION: JULY 29, 2014 **TIME: 2:00 P.M.**

"INSTALLATION OF A TELEPHONE SYSTEM FOR OFFICE TELECOMMUNICATION OPERATION FOR THE DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY"

THE SCOPE OF WORK FOR THIS PROJECT WILL BE AVAILABLE O NOR AFTER **JUNE 26, 2014** AT THE BECQ OFFICE LOCATED AT THE GUALO RAI CENTER BUILDING, ON CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN OR ELECTRONICALLY BY E-MAIL REQUEST TO **christiaanwallace@deq.gov.mp** DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR **JULY 16, 2014 AT 9:00 A.M.** IN THE 2ND FLOOR DEQ CONFERENCE ROOM (RM.205). **QUESTIONS** REGARDING THIS RFP MAY BE SUBMITTED BY FACSIMILE TO MR. CHRISTIAN WALLACE, BECQ NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR AT (670) 664-8540 OR BY E-MAIL TO christiaanwallace@deq.gov.mp NO LATER THAN THE **CLOSE OF BUSINESS, JULY 18, 2014.** RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS SHALL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROSPECTIVE PROPOSERS.

THE GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTION IN A PROPOSAL IF IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS. ALL BIDS SHALL BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ FRANK M. RABAULIMAN
ADMINISTRATOR, BECQ

/S/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S

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evidence emerged.

TIGHAR was not one of those groups. Though it was formed in 1985 by aviation fanatics interested in investigating old missing-plane cases and, if possible, recovering the aircraft, Gillespie steered TIGHAR clear of the Earhart mystery. Earhart had run out of gas somewhere on a very large ocean, he figured, and her plane could be most anywhere in it, miles under the water.

But in 1988, two of his members came to him with a proposal. What if Earhart didn't crash into the sea? What if she reached an uninhabited island?

"The key to it is her final message, where she says 'line of position 157 dash 337,' " Gillespie said. "That's a line that Noonan calculated from the sunrise, running 337 degrees to the northwest and 157 degrees to the southeast. And if you follow it far enough, there are two deserted islands on it, McKeon Island and Gardner Island."

It didn't take long for TIGHAR investigators to find that somebody else had already mentioned the possibility of Earhart landing on Gardner Island. In 1960, a 68-year-old ex-Marine named Floyd Kilts gave an interview to a San Diego newspaper recounting his visit to Gardner Island in 1946, when he was sent there to dismantle a navigational device installed there during World War II.

Kilts said a Micronesian tribesman living on Gardner told him that when the Micronesians moved onto the island in 1938, they found a partial human skeleton, along with a woman's shoe—a sign that she was a foreigner, since the tribesmen all went barefoot. The remnants of a fire pit nearby contained burned bones of small birds and fish, which suggested the woman had lived there some time.

The bones had been given to a British colonial official, who thought they might be the remains of Earhart. The Micronesian didn't know what happened after that, and neither did Kilts.

British archives yielded a load of radio traffic about the discovery of the bones and detailed measurements by a British medical examiner. (The bones themselves had disappeared. The British doctor had concluded the bones belonged to a man of mixed Polynesian and European race, though forensic anthropologists who looked at the data in the 1990s thought it more likely they were those of a European woman.)

One other thing TIGHAR's research turned up: The Navy's belief that Micronesian tribesmen had recently been living on Gardner Island in 1937 when its pilots flew over it was wrong. The tribesmen arrived for the first time a year later. Those signs of habitation had been left by someone else.

Gillespie and his group made their first expedition to Gardner Island—by now renamed Nikumaroro and part of the Republic of Kiribati—in 1989. It was once again deserted; drought drove the population away in the mid-1960s. Some of their empty buildings, including a general store, survived. Otherwise, not much was found.

A second, better-funded expedition arrived in 1991. The past two years had been hard on the island; a major storm had knocked down what little remained of the Micronesian settlement. But as they poked through the rubble, investigators found a fascinating piece of junk: A scrap of aluminum, 19 inches wide by 23 inches long, with four precisely measured rows of rivet holes. It looked for all the world like the torn outer skin of an airplane.

Over the years, tests have showed that's exactly what it was. The scrap is made from a substance Alcoa Aluminum called 24ST Alclad, which was used in the manufacture of nearly all American planes manufactured in the 1930s—including Earhart's Lockheed Electra.

But Gillespie got out well ahead of his forensic evidence in 1992 by holding a Washington D.C. press conference where he declared that "every possibility has been checked, every alternative eliminated. … There is only one possible conclusion: We found a piece of Amelia Earhart's aircraft."

In fact, as other Earhart-investigation groups (there are more of them than Justin Bieber fans clubs, and they can be just as temperamental) quickly pointed out, the rivet patterns on Gillespie's scrap were very, very different than those on Lockheed's Electra.

"It was soon apparent that the Earhart mystery was not solved," Gillespie admitted ruefully.

For years, the metal scrap was like a thorn in TIGHAR's paw. "We knew it was significant, we knew it was a piece of a plane, but we just couldn't quite figure out where it fit," Gillespie said. Three months ago, the group decided to come at the scrap from the opposite direction: If it wasn't from a Lockheed Electra, then what plane was it from? Gillespie's investigators spent a day with the reconstruction team in Dayton, Ohio, at the U.S. Air Force Museum, which rebuilds World War II-era planes for a living. The team scoured its vast store of blueprints and technical drawings. It didn't fit anything.

"That's when one of our investigators said, look, we know there's one piece on that plane that wasn't built or installed by Lockheed—the replacement for that missing window," Gillespie recalled. "So maybe that's the match."

TIGHAR began reviewing its massive archive of photos of Earhart's plane. But relatively few showed the right side of the aircraft, because photographers usually wanted to get Earhart herself in the shot, and her pilot's seat was on the left side. Only one shot offered a really good view of the patch: that 1937 photo from the Miami Herald.

"The replacement of that window had to be done in Miami, at a Pan Am facility that was helping Earhart," Gillespie said. "They may have used different materials than Lockheed ... If we can match that rivet pattern in the photo, I don't see how anybody can argue against this anymore."

Gillespies' theory is that Earhart landed her plane on a coral reef just off Gardner Island that becomes visible at low tide. For a time, she used the plane's radio to send out distress signals, until rough weather washed the aircraft off the reef into a deep ocean trough below.

More than 100 shortwave radio listeners around the United States—many of them with enhanced antennas intended to pick up distant signals—reported hearing distress calls from a woman identifying herself as Earhart in the days after her disappearance. At the time, they were all dismissed as hoaxes or mistaken identities, but Gillespie believes some of them may have been genuine, the product of a signal leakage known as harmonics that was common on early radio transmitters.

Among the most haunting of the reports came from a St. Petersburg teenager named Betty Klenck, who died recently at the age of 92. In 1937, she was a kid spending her summer afternoons trolling the shortwave radio her father had rigged with a 60-foot antenna, scribbling down in a notebook song lyrics and bits of news she heard.

Three days after the plane went down, Betty stumbled onto a call from someone who identified herself as Earhart. For three hours, the teenager listened, transfixed and jotting notes all the while, as the woman pleaded for help, comforted an apparently injured Fred Noonan, and sometimes cried. "Oh, if they could hear me," she moaned in despair at one point.

Betty's father came home from work about midway through the broadcast and joined her in listening to it. Later he showed her notebook to Coast Guard authorities, who weren't interested, thinking it the fantasy of a bored teenager. Yet the notebook contains intriguing hints of things Betty couldn't possibly have known, and which may support the idea that the woman on the radio was Earhart, calling from Gardner Island.

For instance: Earhart's constant repetition of something that sounded like "New York City." That wouldn't have made much sense. But if the words were "Norwich City," it's another matter: The SS Norwich City was a freighter lost at sea in 1929 that washed up on the reef just off Gardner Island. Bits of the wreckage can still be seen there today. They say it looms darkly in the spectral shadows just before dawn.

Kanoa Resort
Saipan

Maintenance Coordinator (1)
Qualifications: Requires three (3) years of satisfactory performance as a Maintenance Coordinator; or any combination of related education and experience in the assigned area; or up to four (4) years of college courses in civil engineering, construction management or related field. Must have the ability to read, write, analyze & interpret orally & written effectively; ability to interpret and administer contracts for construction, and/or operational services.

Lifeguard (1)
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent. Must be able to swim and have an outgoing personality and the ability to motivate with enthusiasm. Proposed ideas or find ways to improve services, systems and/or procedures. Direct and lead activities for guests of all ages. Certified CPR, First Aid and Lifeguard. Must be able to work flexible schedule including holidays, weekends and nights.

Maintenance Manager (1)
Qualifications: High School diploma or equivalent. Minimum of six (6) years experience in hotel maintenance plus 2 years in supervisory level. Able to supervise, manage and coordinate the activities of mechanics, installers and repairers. Good judgment, decision making skills, and time management skills. Prefer some technical courses. Must know how to read floor plan and electrical diagram. Valid driver's license and reliable transportation. Must be able to work flexible schedule including holidays, weekends and nights.

Electrician (3)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent. Minimum of five (5) years work experience required. Provide access for future maintenance and avoid unreliable wiring, consistent with verification and electrical codes, and other related duties as assigned. Capable of reading schematic diagram, and electrical symbols, knowledgeable on industrial electricity, circuit breakers, switches and controls. Must to work in a flexible way that allows for changes in assignments and priorities depending upon identified needs of the department. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Landscaping Worker (1)
Qualifications: Minimum of 2 to 3 years previous work experience. Cultivates and cares for ornamental plants and installs floral displays indoor or outdoor settings through performance of any combination of following duties as directed by supervisory personnel. Able to work a variable schedule on occasion including weekends.

Sous Chef (2)
Qualifications: High school diploma; a graduate from independent and vocational cooking schools, professional culinary institutes or a college degree in appropriate field or equivalent. Must have at least four (4) years experience in a five-star Hotel, Club, or Resort. Supervising-chef assistant Supervises and coordinates activities of cooks and other workers engaged in preparing and cooking foodstuffs. Assumes responsibility for kitchen in absence of EXECUTIVE CHEF. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

International Cook (2)
Qualifications: High school diploma; graduate from independent and vocational cooking schools, professional culinary institutes or a college degree in appropriate field or equivalent. At least three (3) years experience in a five-star Hotel, Club, or Resort. Must be able to prepare, season, and cook a wide range of international dishes such as soups, meats, vegetables, salads, entrees, and desserts in the Resort. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Baker (1)
Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. Some previous work-related skill, knowledge or experience preferably in a hotel. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Demi Chef (1)
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent, or postsecondary instruction from vocational schools. Minimum of four (4) years work experience as a Demi-Chef preferably in hotel. Comprehensive knowledge of kitchen hygiene practices and occupational health and safety standards is essential. Supervise and coordinates activities of kitchen operation and personnel. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Cafeteria Attendant (1)
Qualifications: High school diploma or GED certificate. Little or no previous work-related skill, knowledge, or experience is needed for these occupations. Must facilitate food service. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

A/C Refrigeration Mechanic/Technician (1)
Qualifications: Require post-secondary instruction from technical and trade schools or community colleges that offer programs in air-conditioning and refrigeration or and associate's degree. Completion of an apprenticeship program or two (2) to four (4) years of experience. Able to install and repair industrial and commercial refrigeration systems. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Assistant Maintenance Manager (1)
Qualifications: High School diploma or equivalent. Minimum of six (6) years experience in hotel maintenance plus 2 years in supervisory level. Valid driver's license and reliable transportation. Preferably some technical courses. Must know how to use Excel and Microsoft Word. Must know how to read floor plan and electrical diagram and understand centralized air-conditioning system. Adheres to OSHA safety standards that are applicable for the safe performance of job. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Powerhouse Mechanic (Power Plant) (1)
Qualifications: Require postsecondary instruction from technical and trade schools or community colleges, or and associate's degree. Completion of an apprenticeship program or 2 to 4 years of experience. Perform routine maintenance or make repairs to mechanical, electrical, or electronic equipment in power plants. Willing to work flexible schedule on occasion, including weekends.

Pool Attendant (1)
Qualifications: High School graduate with at least two (2) years work experience as a Pool Attendant. Knowledgeable on some sports and in organizing group activities. Must be knowledgeable with the use of chemicals for the pool. Certified CPR, First Aid and Lifeguard. Willing to work flexible schedule on occasion, including weekends.

General Maintenance Worker/Repairer (2)
Qualifications: Minimum of two (2) years work experience as a Handyman preferably in a hotel or in a similar large building or complex with central plant. Willingness to work outside (if necessary) in inclement weather. Must be able to carry and lift heavy objects. Possession of a valid driver's license is essential. Perform work involving skills of two or more maintenance craft occupations to keep machines, mechanical equipment, or the structure of an establishment in repair. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Income Auditor Supervisor (1)
Qualifications: A bachelor's degree in accounting or a related field. Minimum of five (5) years progressive experience in night audit/income audit operations, preferably in a hotel. Examine and analyze accounting records to determine financial status of establishment and prepare financial reports concerning operating procedures. Must also have experience with inventories to include, but not limited to F&B, Dry goods and Housekeeping cleaning and guest supplies. Willing to work flexible schedule on occasion, including weekends.

Housekeeper (5)
Qualifications: High School graduate or equivalent. Minimum 6 months work experience preferably in a hotel. Must be able to speak and write in English. Ability to speak basic foreign language is a plus. Good customer service skills are essential. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Tailor/Dressmaker (2)
Qualifications: Minimum of Three (3) years work experience as a dressmaker preferably in a hotel. Must be able to think creatively. Is able to design, make draperies, repair or fit garments. Must have an interest in fashion, color and style. Must have ability to work quickly, accurately and independently in a fast-paced environment. Able to work a variable schedule on occasion including weekends.

Housekeeping Supervisor (4)
Qualifications: High school graduate or equivalent. A few months to one year of supervisory/managerial capacity, in a five-star hotel, club, or resort. Preferably some basic knowledge of the hotel industry. Must directly supervise and coordinate work activities of cleaning personnel in the hotel. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

IT Tech Support Manager (1)
Qualifications: Any combination of education and training equivalent to possession of a bachelor's degree in computer science, information engineering, computer associates or other related areas. Must have at least five (5) years working experience. Experience in all areas of local and wide area networks management and administration including system configuration, setup, troubleshooting, implementation, and user support. Experience installing and supporting Microsoft server technologies. Working knowledge of local and wide area networks (LAN/WAN), Internet, e-mail systems, telecommunications and data communications, standard operating systems, software packages, and software. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Night Auditor (1)
Qualifications: College Diploma or Equivalent certificate, in a hotel or resort. Must have at least two (2) years experience in hotel internal auditing. Must be willing to work flexible night duty/graveyard schedule, weekends, holidays and extended work hours. Understanding of business processes and work flow design. Strong financial analytical background and must be knowledgeable on Microsoft office applications and other software are essential. Good communication and interpersonal skills are necessary. Also responsible in handling of company general funds. Ability to pay close attention to detail with a high degree of accuracy, adapt to changes in work environment, work as assignments and/or changes in priorities.

Guest Relations Supervisor (1)
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent training in vocational schools, related on-the-job experience, or an associate's degree in hospitality or hotel management. One to four years or supervisory/managerial capacity, in a five-star hotel, club, or resort. Preferably some basic knowledge of the hotel industry. Must be able to supervise and coordinate the activities of guest relations workers to make sure that guests on vacation or business travel have a pleasant experience, while also ensuring the establishment is run efficiently and profitably. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Assistant Manager, Room Reservation (1)
Qualifications: Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. Minimum of two continuous years experience in reservations, at supervisory/managerial capacity, in a five-star hotel, club, or resort. Preferably some basic knowledge of the hotel industry. Responsible for the supervision of all activities pertaining to Reservations Department in order to achieve the highest possible occupancy levels for the purpose of maximizing room revenues and profit. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays and weekends.

Wait Staff (7)
Qualifications: High school diploma/GED preferred. At least 6 months serving experience required or 6 months current hosting experience. Restaurant and Beverages experience preferred. Proven knowledge of Micros or equivalent computer software and cash check, credit card handling procedures required. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights.

Food and Beverage Supervisor (3)
Qualifications: High school diploma or equivalent or training in vocational schools, related on-the-job experience, or an associate's degree. Minimum two (2) years work experience as F&B supervisor preferably in a hotel. Must be able to directly supervise and coordinate activities of workers engaged in preparing and serving. Must be able to work flexible schedule including early morning hours, holidays, weekends and nights. Strong customer service skills and people oriented.

Guest Services Agent (3)
Qualifications: Must have minimum of 2 years work experience in providing quality customer and personal services. This includes customer needs assessment, meeting quality standards for service and evaluation of customer satisfaction. Must be able to handle customer complaints with efficiency. High School diploma or GED certificate. Must be able to work variable schedule including nights, weekends and holidays. Must have multitasking skills, be detailed-oriented, and be able to solve problems in order to effectively deal with internal and external customers.

Interested applicants may send their applications to hr@kanoaresort.com. Application forms may be obtained at our Security Office located at the back wing of our resort. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than July 16, 2014. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Kanoa Resort is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
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EDITORIAL

Attacks and drift in the Mideast

The best news out of the Mideast—or the least worst news, given the circumstances—might be Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's declaration that he is outraged by the brutal murder of a Palestinian teenager. In a phone call Monday to the boy's father, Netanyahu pledged that the suspects in custody—six Israelis—will face the fullest extent of the law.

"We denounce all brutal behavior; the murder of your son is abhorrent and cannot be countenanced by any human being," Netanyahu said, according to the prime minister's office.

This declaration is as it should be, of course, but it won't be enough to calm the air. The cycle of death, violence and destruction over the past month is appalling, dragging Israel and the Palestinians further away from this year's failed peace talks.

Dozens of rockets and mortar shells were fired into Israel Monday from Hamas-controlled Gaza, with no immediate reports of fatalities. One rocket struck the area of Beersheba, an Israeli city about 30 miles from the Gaza Strip, the Israeli military said.

What's happening feels like the stirrings of an escalation in which each side can pick an affront on which to focus.

In June three Israeli teenagers were kidnapped and later found brutally murdered—an act blamed on Hamas. Soon afterward, the Palestinian teen was abducted and found beaten and burned to death. Police suspect that crime was "nationalistic."

There is street violence in the West Bank. Video footage caught Israeli police beating a Palestinian, later identified as the 15-year-old American cousin of the dead Palestinian. The American was detained and released into home confinement pending an investigation.

Meanwhile, Israel continues its search for suspects in the triple murder, amid reports in Haaretz that the military is bringing back an old tactic: home demolition. The Supreme Court of Israel gave its OK in one case, and Haaretz says the military is considering demolishing the homes of other Palestinian militants, including the two Hamas suspects, a curbside justice step that is more likely to add to the building cycle of hate than provide any deterrence.

And to think U.S. officials believed just weeks ago there was an opportunity for a revived peace process here. The imperative now is to quell the rising violence before it turns into a third intifada.

Hamas is stepping up its attacks and its rhetoric, blaming Israeli air strikes for the deaths of six fighters, a claim Israel denies. Monday night there was word Israel is calling up military reservists—perhaps as many as 1,500.

Almost absent from the present drama is Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas, whose lack of influence with all parties—friend and foe—reflects how extraordinarily difficult it will be to negotiate any kind of calming. This is a particularly dangerous time in a perpetually dangerous place.

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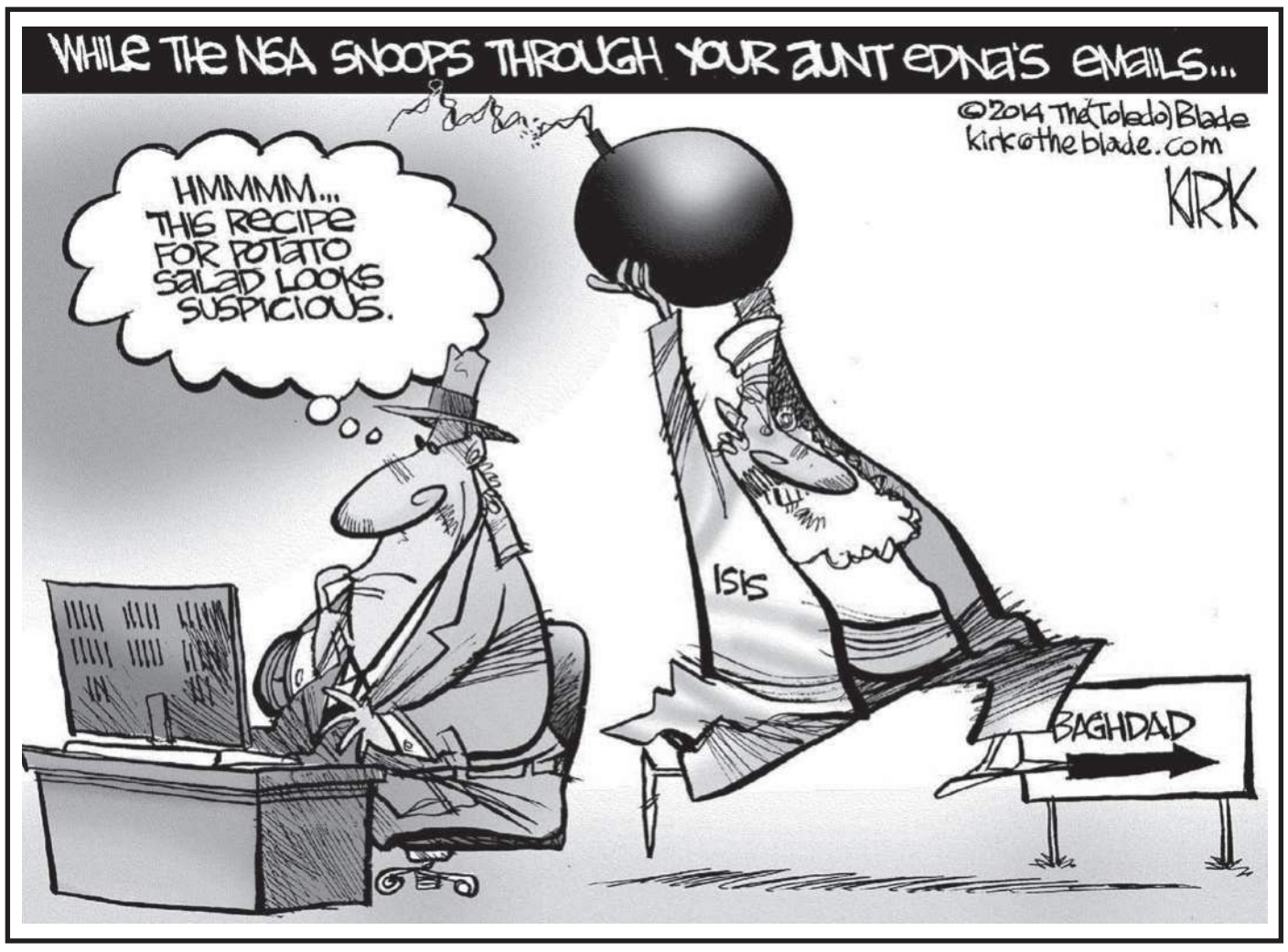
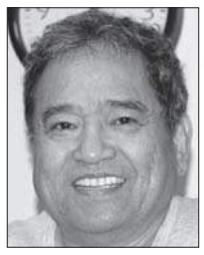


Ni hao, y'all

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



It was not unexpected but it still came as a surprise. Several southern states in North America reportedly poised their economies to attract investments from China.

The son of a moneyed Vancouver magnate spent a bundle to get his son wedded to a model, complete with private fireworks that required a public permit and cost a fortune. Of course, we knew as was anticipated that HK wealth ran to Vancouver and Toronto after the 1997 turnover of the territory to China by England.

In my lifetime, I was acquainted with three civilizational dreams. The first was a royally militant one, asserting an Aryan sense of regal superiority across the planet when the upper lip in the observance of afternoon tea followed the declaration that the "sun never sets on the British Empire." This represented the European dream started by Macedonian Alexander when we led his troops to dip lances on the Indus waters, and the Caesars constructed their viaducts into the piazzas of Rome.

The second came with G.I. Joe after World War II. In the Pea Eye, it came with Thomasite at the turn of the 20th century, teachers who did not mind being an arm of an imperial design along with the evangelical Midwest Protestant missionaries. "The light upon the hill" was a characterization from Boston, later called American exceptionalism, and a deep sense of "manifest destiny" on bringing liberation to the oppressed, relief to the destitute, and freedom to the downtrodden. At first, that is.

Later, we forgot the oppressed and the double-d. After General Dwight as President Ike on his way out of office warned of the close affinity of corporate management to military might, Uncle Sam's grunts and state's policy wonks surreptitiously became the brawn and brain of the country's oil exploration and drilling concerns. The American Dream became al-Jazeera's favored punching bag. Individual drive for wealth got stymied as the 15/85 percent divide became a 1/99 gross inequality.

Current President Xi Jinping used the phrase "China Dream" in his speech after he was elected into office, and joined six others including the country's Prime Minister in the Standing Committee of the Politburo. His administration vowed to pursue and engage the nation in a China Dream. As a foreigner residing in the country, I am often asked why I chose to be in China after my contract was already completed. I answer through the three points I understand to be constituent of the China Dream.

One, the dream involves more than the 85 million members of the Communist Party of China, critical as they are since their sense of responsibility includes the proper governance of the land. Rather, it involves the 1.39 billion Chinese in country as well as those dispersed across the planet. Retired colleague and literacy acceleration guru Lucille Chagnon, in the reading and writing anthology she uses for her "each one, teach two" courses, quotes an old Chinese proverb:

Tell me, I forget.
Show me, I remember.
Involve me, I understand.

Similarly, the CPC aims to involve everyone in the dreaming.

Two, the dream diffuses the tension brought by the *Huquo* individual registration (*huji* system of household registration) that pits the formerly dominant countryside against the new urban dwellers. It was not historically intended to pit one internal group against another as it was to identify and designate one's provenance and place of official residence, as well as record immigration and movement of the increasing mobile workforce. A similar practice was followed in Japan, North Vietnam, the Koreas, and Russia (South Korea stopped the practice in 2008, and earlier, the *propiska* of the USSR). While the intention was not contradictional, the system spawned an informal but actual caste system that favors urban registrants. The dream visualizes a leveled playing field.

Third, the dream requires that all trade and commerce with people outside the sovereign territory be a win-win arrangement. It does not serve China's interest anywhere in the world if their investment flourishes at the expense of the host economy. If China advances, so must also be the case of the countries in commercial and trade relationships with China. In the free-market realm, China reads the financial report bottom line, gleans for lessons from the local political process, but does not interfere with it one way or the other.

After the Tiananmen Square incident of 1989, party stalwart Deng Xiaoping made it clear to reformers that "some folks will get richer before others" as he opened the floodgates of the market to private investments. He reportedly told his audience that they could make as much money as they want but to leave the politics alone to the pros. The China Dream began at his instigation.

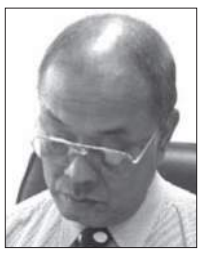
The party had not been idle. Prosecution of high profile charges on corruption were made. Tremors accompany China's vision of the future but its journey begins at the center. "Zhong" is the fifth cardinal point, the center, the same word that identifies the people. In the dream, we are on to a journey to, of, and for the Center, y'all!

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Riku na gualu` natibu

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



Megai gi familia-ta bumira siha tatte gi gualu` gi hiniyuñg i Navy guine gi 1961. Taya` otru offisiu `nai mana` fan para gi che`chu` niha. I gualu` yan peskan tasi solu remediu.

Bastara ke payun luma`la`, ensegidas ha tanum haf` chadeg na agu`un haya para mantension familia kontodu pinegsai. Deste choda, sune, kamute, dagu, nika, yan gulusina sinparant man-matanum. Dispues mafalague kanton tasi man-chenchulu `sino talaya.

`An pueñge man-peskan fisga `nai makone buyada na guihan sanhalom ni man-ladañkulu. Guaha lokue` man-peskan halom tanu` man-e-ayuyu `sino binadu, manog hatsadu yan babue. Brabu kalamten i patriakan familia gi satbasion familiaña gi bandan mantension.

Maseha man-hinegse didog na chinatsaga, ti mafnas i sensian ayudu gi entalu` familia siha. Mas oppan este na sensia gi halom tautau-ta. I modetnu na modun linala`ta adumididi` fumunas este na linala`ta pa`gu. Enfin, trabiha ta`lu memetgot ha` sensian familia yan ina`ayuda gi entalu` todu.

Tai malefaghu ni asun kusinan lanchu `nai o`oppan mañge` na tininun katne yan guihan. Popble i tanu` lau riku mantension naturat i natibu. Metgot i pegsi` ina`ayuda gi entalu` tautau-ta. Estague` sustansian yan sumusteteni i tautau Marianas esta pa`gu na tiempu!

Fitme na kuttura

`Nai hu bisita iya Palau un` tiempu, sumen gatbu na tanu` gi todu guinahaña. Deste plasan batkon aire esta i primet siuda (Koror) ma`lag na betde enteru i oriya siha. Inadotna ni gatbun tasi gi kantun tanu`. Abundansia guinahan mantension i tautau siha.

Huli`e mauleg na kustumbren peskan guihan halom rubentason. Ayu ha` makone para usun familia guihe na ha`ane. Mapatte haye na atuñgo` gaige dispues i pumalu machule` para i gima`. Guaha ha` lokue` `nos kuantos metkao guihan. Lau rektu na areglu guaha gi disposision minan tasiña piot guihan

Gi oriyan guma gi enteru isla puru tinanom choda, mendioka, sune, kamute yan gulusina. Estague patte gi mantension familia gi enteru i sakan. Tatnai man-fatta nu este siha na agu`un. Kustumbren tanu`. Estague` sumoyoyu` mananom choda gi oriyan gima`hu. Siempre u tatatte mendioka, sune yan kamute gi manu `nai mauleg i edda` gi oriya.

Esta dos biahe hu hoñggu` chodan galayan yan manila. I tinegcha` mañga sessu finatoigue lalu` fruta ya mofo`na dinestrosia antes de u to`a. Na`e animu maseha dididi` para usumu.

Deste 'value' esta 'dialu'

Hu e`ekuñgog un` sabiu sige pumalapa pot "land value"—balin tanu—ayu na ha sappopotta matulaikan attikulu dose. Ha danche i asuntu pot balin tanu` lau gueku kumu katsu gi majustifikan tinilaika. Ti rason este na eskusu!

Dispues, ha sañganeyu` i amiguhu Muron na i mismu tautau ni fumafama "balin tanu" fuma`um halom kuchinun adeñgña gi sikosña. Era, mamahan tanu` ni balin $30-mit lau pot emerensiha na nesessidat, $5-mit ha` tinasa ni dueñu.

Anog na maliñgu gi santatte i "value" ni tinebus huyuñg ni "dialu" gi este na estrakada. Ai, ke lau mañgge` i suspichosu na esplikasion pot balin tanu`? Gai konsensia i plumacha`e i mismu ha fafama na asuntun linahyan? Dalai `ste!

Pot fabot, fanachu` gi hilu` integredat yan sensian espirituat sa ni ñgai`na `nai in` fan lache. Dispues, un` tantan hau gi uttimun ha`ane gasgas konsensiamu. Paire na siñiente gi minachom atdau. Dumeskansa hau pas gi halom katman konsensiamu!

Man-ñahlalañg

Estaba un` lahen mame gi oriya gai kinamten, era atotgante yan pitbetsu. Mamaisen haye numesessita siboyas golai. Ha insiste na uma`apase ensegidas esta i dispues i produktu. Ni unu umatrebigue` pot todu tumuñgu` na si tataña i guagualu` ti si pindehote!

■■■

Sessu antes huli`e si biahu man-utut eskobiya ya ha bale halom guma`. Sumen gasgas yan lamlam i satgen i sala. Kasse, gai laña i hagun ayu na tinanom na nina` lamlam i satge. Eskoban antigu ni todu umu`usa gi mabalen halom guma` antes na tiempu.

■■■

I gima` antigu na mañaina-ta tatkilu`. I fina` satge ma-usa entre kusina yan fanliheñg pinegsai. I tampen atuf tinifog hagun niyog yan sakaten sisonyan. Fresku na guma` lau ti guiyaya figu` gi halom mattirun fotte na pagyu. Pa`gu puru padet ni kulan hotnu dispues de `las dies gi ega`an. Dios mihu!

■■■

Antes, taya` `nai ma-eskohe haf` na trahe para ta usa. Man-praktiku i mañaina chumoneg na `an gasgas, pues usa ya un` sige para eskuela `sino doktrina.

Pa`gu, debi u parehu kulot deste sanhilu`n todu papa`. Ai ya in` chage yori` mame antes ni papagpag `an magtus i pinegan chubu` gi sanmena. Lau ti na`mamahlau sa` ha konfifitma na patgon popble hau. Taya` riku gi entre hame guihe na tiempu ayu na manbrabu ham gi halom mattirun pinepble yan hamagtus yori`.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

They're killing our sick democracy

Voters, especially my students and others students who know better, are very disappointed in our representatives who voted to circumvent the will of the people as they are clearly trying to kill our sick democracy. We are reading everyday about how the economy is improving and tourist numbers are rising without their help and yet they are asserting the casino as the only fix.

In a true democracy the people rule but that is not the case in the CNMI. Our Covenant governors and the Legislature have managed to keep us (locals, mainlanders, and now retirees) divided on many alternative solutions like Article 12 and marijuana legalization. Now they are expanding that division to retirees with the casino issue just to get elected. With only a few months before the election they could have put it on the ballot but it seems they don't want the people to decide on anything anymore!

I actually witnessed 60 protesting retirees who had been preinformed and organized by you know who to overrule 4,000-plus signatures! Just think 60 voices versus 4,000-plus and they listened to the 60, which tells me our democracy is now in ICU and it's not funny! It was another skullduggery rush job and the anti-casino voters never had a chance to organize a protest as only the retirees were organized and ready with such a short notice.

Circumventing the law and stripping the people of their right to decide with a referendum does not justify the means as they claim because they are destroying our democracy and dividing the people, which is far more valuable to the CNMI than the 25 percent owed. What about the land compensation people who are suffering and even on their deathbed as they have been owed 100 percent for over 20 years and are clearly at the front of the line to be paid by our government? The protesting retirees just don't get it that they are being used; they just don't care about the rest of us! Retirees should take the money if it comes because I will, but I won't be stupid and reward traitors to our democratic process with my vote and I pray the majority will do the same if they want to heal our sick democracy. "Anybody but Inos and his cronies" will be my battle cry and I pray the majority of voters will join me.

The protesting retirees are obviously limited in their ability to see the big picture and can only focus on their 25 percent, which is why they don't understand what is happening to them. Our sick democracy is the reason why there were no other alternatives to a casino, why the Covenant governors killed the ferry, marijuana legalization, and other alternatives to casino and why retirees are the only ones given an audience with the governor and Rep. Demapan! Retirees are being played for suckers and don't even know it so we must pray for these church-going people who think a casino is their only salvation. Maybe they should stop going to church with that kind of faith because I'm sure God does not agree with the handful of retirees on casinos and what they are doing to destroy our democracy that is clearly disrespectful to the majority of voters in the CNMI.

We are teaching their children and all our young folks the principles and the right way for governing in schools but the old folks (retirees and leaders) are throwing the principles of our democratic republic in the trash for a measly 25 percent in trade for a vote, which is obvious and a horrible example for our children and future leaders.

Retirees should want a better government in November so we will never have to worry about the 25 percent and the many other financial challenges we face. P.T. Barnum of Barnum & Bailey Circus one said, "There is a sucker born every day," and retirees are proving he was right, falling for the old money in the hand bribe for their vote. Retirees and leaders are turning their back on the rest of society so don't be surprised in November if the majority of voters gangs up on the governor and those in the Legislature for trying to kill our democracy. Voters did it in the last election and they can do it again to finally fix everything!

Ambrose M Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

A chance to show true leadership

Governor, your actions since you took office show your disdain for a large percentage of the common people. You and this legislature have used the retirees as prostitutes for your own ends. I've talked to several retirees and not one of them know that the $30 million represents two years' license fees, which means there will be that much less coming into the CNMI coffers, and, because you have given the casino all the tax breaks allowed by law, that means there won't even be any tax money for a long time. What will you say when the 25-percent deduction kicks in again late next year or so? What are you going to tell them? What are you going to tell them when no $2-billion casino raises its magnificent towers to the Saipan sky? You know most of them are just simple, hardworking, normal folks, most who find it hard to understand the complexity and reality of CNMI finances. No one pays taxes, corporations don't pay taxes and current government workers contribute zero dollars to their retirement fund; no money is going into it, or the CNMI treasury anymore. *They need to know this.* Not one retiree I've talked to is aware of this, or much of anything else and that's why you can manipulate them so easily. You're an accountant; tell them the reality of the situation. They don't understand much of what is happening, only that you promised to give them their 25 percent back. Tell them how long they will be getting it before the Fund runs out of money again, completely out of money. Tell them that if the current retirees live another 10 years, the Fund will need about $800 million to survive. Tell them where that money is going to come from. They just don't understand and it is your duty as governor to explain it to them in terms they can understand.

One thing people can understand is working together in an emergency and this qualifies as one. I've been in four super typhoons, some old people have been through lots more, and know that when the wind quits they get going, helping each other, rebuilding, enduring the hardships, as a community. They know what needs to be done and are happy to pitch in when they know what the end results will be. Every governor has kept the truth from the average citizen about what caused the problems of today and what must be done to correct them. The people are smart and will understand, if you just tell them the truth *and have a concrete plan to rectify the current situation*. They will pitch in, tighten their belts, work with you and help you, *if you have a concrete plan to rectify the situati0n for the long term*. Show us in black and white what steps you will take, how long it will take and what will be done to make sure we never get into a fiscal crisis like this ever again. A good, rock solid, long-term plan is what you need now, one we can understand and get behind, not another Band-Aid solution. That probably means increased taxes, creating a middle class, reducing government workers and their pay rates, cutting the number of representatives, senators, staff and consultants, increasing CW processing fees (to bring a CW to Guam costs about $14,000), looking at every single government agency closely, privatizing where it is feasible, renewable energy (the Saipan channel could supply the entire CNMI and Guam with power).

I was at the juvenile detention center a few weeks ago and there were five employees there watching two kids. Put them at the Hyatt, it would be cheaper. It can be done and a true leader could get the people behind him. We need leadership now, not more political BS.

Gary DuBrall
Chalan Piao, Saipan

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms.
▲88° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲88° ▼79°	▲87° ▼79°

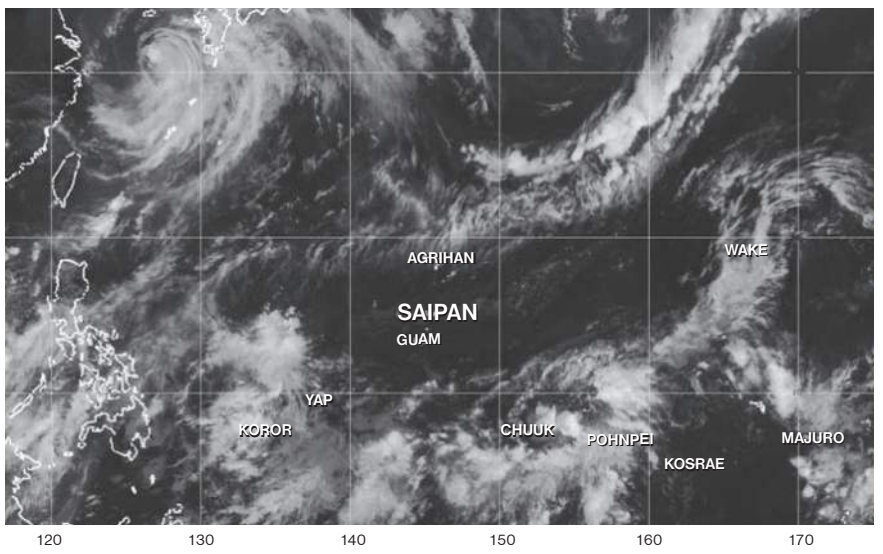
Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼80
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲58	▼57
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	▲96	▼70
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲87	▼81
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼76
London	Cloudy	▲74	▼62
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲85	▼64
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲88	▼76
Melbourne	Showers	▲56	▼45
Miami	Thundershowers	▲88	▼78
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲88	▼70
Osaka	Rain	▲80	▼74
Paris	Showers	▲69	▼61
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲84	▼71
Rome	Showers	▲74	▼61
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲87	▼53
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼55
Seoul	Sunny	▲92	▼70
Tokyo	Showers	▲82	▼75
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲90	▼72

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, WEDNESDAY, JULY 9, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak circulation is centered east of Koror and south of Yap near 6N138E. A trough extends northward to around 15N135E. Patchy areas of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are located over Palau between 2N and 15N from 130E to 138E and south of Yap island between 2N and 8N from 138 to 144E. A weak circulation is centered between Chuuk and Pohnpei near 7N156E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are south of Chuuk and Pohnpei between the equator and 7N from 146E to 159E. A trough extends northeastward to near 13N163E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms associated with this trough are found east of Chuuk and over Pohnpei between 7N and 12N from 154E to 160E. A trade-wind surge is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms from the date line across the Marshall Islands within 100 miles of a line from 6N170E to 3N174E to 5N180. An upper-level low centered west of Wake Island near 20N162E is causing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over and south of Wake Island within 100 miles of a line from 20N166E to 12N166E to 8N173E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

12:03 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
5:33 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet
1:01 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet
8:01 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
Friday	5:53 AM	6:52 PM
Saturday	5:54 AM	6:52 PM
Sunday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM
Monday	5:54 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	4:33 PM	3:18 AM
Friday	5:33 PM	4:17 AM
Saturday	6:33 PM	5:19 AM
Sunday	7:30 PM	6:23 AM
Monday	8:24 PM	7:26 AM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any IT&E cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 18, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7

SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)

DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 6 via NRT

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	1, 3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764A	3:30am	7:30am	4, 7
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	9:50pm	1, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
D28009	12:50pm	4:05pm	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4

PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN

DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763A	6:50pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU763	7:20am	3:00am+1	4, 7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:55am	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6 via GUM
UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5039	11:30pm	2:00pm+1	5 via GUM
UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
D28008	6:05pm	1:20am+1	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA180/5038	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR; D2: Dynamic Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

Business

AFTER DETROIT

Another city ponders bankruptcy

FLINT, Mich. (AP)—As Detroit struggles to climb out of bankruptcy, another Michigan city with strong ties to the auto industry may be about to fall into the same hole.

Flint, the birthplace of General Motors that once had 200,000 residents, has also endured a spectacular drop in population and factory jobs and a corresponding rise in property abandonment, much like its insolvent big brother an hour's drive south.

If a judge rules against Flint's effort to cut its retiree health care benefits, the city is expected to join about a dozen cities or counties that have sought help from the courts since the start of the recession.

"If we don't get any relief in the courts ... we are headed over the same cliff as Detroit," said Darnell Earley, the emergency manager appointed by Gov. Rick Snyder to manage Flint's finances. "We can't even sustain the budget we have if we have to put more money into health care" for city workers.

Before Detroit, the largest local government bankruptcy filing was in Jefferson County, Alabama, in November 2011. The county emerged last year after reorganization of its $4 billion in debt. Court proceedings continue for the California cities of Stockton, San Bernardino, and Mammoth Lakes, all of which filed in 2012.

The greatest threat of new cases may be in Michigan, where about a dozen cities and four school districts are under state control. The state unemployment rate still is 7.3 percent, and some entities remain saddled with underfunded pension plans.

That Flint might follow Detroit, which filed in July 2013, isn't surprising, given their shared circumstances. Both were once boomtowns brimming with auto jobs for collars white and blue. General Motors employed about 80,000 in the area in the early 1970s. Fewer than 8,000 GM jobs remain. The city's population has fallen to just below 100,000.

The community is probably best known by many as the hometown of filmmaker Michael Moore, whose 1989 documentary "Roger and Me" chronicled in first-person, court-jester fashion the automaker's retrenchment and the effect on the city.

Today the city is a mixed picture of hope and desolation. Downtown bustles with people going to government offices, the growing University of Michigan branch campus and businesses along red-brick paved Saginaw Street, which features several striking iron arches that span the roadway and are replicas of those from a century ago.

But on the edge of the business district, overgrown lots and boarded-up buildings creep in, and empty houses outnumber occupied ones in some residential areas.

AP

In a June 12, 2014 photo in Flint, Mich., a view looking south on Saginaw St. is seen.

US has only 1 bank in world's top 10

A list of the world's 100 largest banks is out, and the United States has only one in the top 10.

Topping the list is Industrial & Commercial Bank of China Ltd., with $3.174 trillion in assets, according to numbers released Tuesday by SNL Financial. It's followed by $2.758 trillion-asset HSBC Holdings Plc of the United Kingdom.

Jumping to No. 3, up from No. 7 since SNL last compiled its list in December 2013, is China Construction Bank Corp., with $2.596 trillion in assets.

China has four of the top 10 slots, according to the Charlottesville, Va.-based data collector. The United States has 11 in the top 100, led by JPMorgan Chase & Co. at No. 6 with $2.477 trillion in assets. Other banks in the top 10 included: BNP Paribas SA and Credit Agricole Group, both of France; Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group of Japan; and Barclays Plc of the United Kingdom.

Ranking No. 12 was Bank of America Corp., with $2.15 trillion in assets. Citigroup Inc. ranked No. 14.

China is the country with the most banks on SNL's top 100 list, with 15, followed by the United States, and then Japan with eight. Europe as a whole, and Russia, have 45 of the top 100 banks, down from 47 in SNL's previous ranking.

A company's accounting methods can affect its world ranking, SNL pointed out. The largest four banks, for example, report total assets under International Financial Reporting Standards, which require banks to include the gross amount of derivative assets on their balance sheets.

In contrast, banks that report under U.S. generally accepted accounting principles report the net amount of derivatives. Chase would be No. 1 if it reported them on a gross basis, SNL said. Bank of America would be third and Citi would be seventh, SNL said.

Other U.S. banks in the top 100: Wells Fargo & Co., 21; Goldman Sachs, 30; Morgan Stanley, 34; U.S. Bancorp, 70; Bank of New York Mellon Corp., 72; PNC Financial Services Group, 80; Capital One Financial Corp., 85; State Street Corp., 96. ***(Chicago Tribune)***

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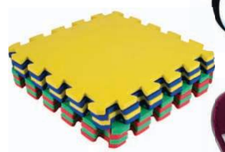
Super Star Baby Tricycle $29.95



Eva Soft Floor Mats
$10.95

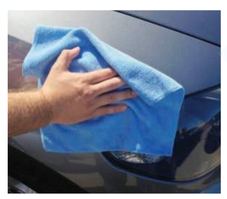
Instep Safari
Stroller
$139.95

Fabric
Shower
Curtain
$4.95

3 Piece Hard Case
Luggage Set
NOW ONLY
$85.95

SD LED Emergency Lamp
$16.95

Rechargeable
Searchlight
$8.95



HDX 18 Pack Large
Microfiber Towels $15.95

Oval Rugs
NOW ONLY
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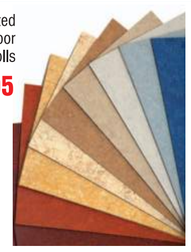
Mens/Boys Athletic Shoes
Assorted Colors and Sizes

NOW ONLY $12.95

Linoleum Assorted
Design Floor
Sheet 1.5 Meter Rolls
$149.95



4 Piece Soft
Roll Luggage
Set
$129.95

Craftsman 94 Piece
Mechanics Tool Set with
Carrying Case $69.95

Husky Welded
Heavy Duty
4 Shelf System
77X24X78"
$269.95

Husky 5 Piece Metric Universal
Rachet Wrench Set $39.95

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Nation

Obama urgently asks $3.7 billion for border crisis

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama appealed to Congress on Tuesday for $3.7 billion in emergency spending to deal with the immigration crisis on the nation's southern border, where unaccompanied children have been showing up by the thousands in a human drama that's causing a political storm in Washington and beyond.

Obama himself was flying to Texas on Wednesday, a trip designed mostly for political fundraising for Democrats but now including a meeting on immigration with Gov. Rick Perry and religious and local leaders in Dallas. He rejected pressure from the Republican governor to visit the border for a firsthand look.

In Washington, Democrats and some Republicans on Capitol Hill seemed open to approving the emergency money, which would go toward hiring more immigration judges and asylum officers, building more detention facilities, boosting deterrence and enforcement and increasing surveillance along the border with Mexico. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said the Senate would act on it this month.

Obama said in a formal letter of request that the money was needed to "address this urgent humanitarian situation."

But Senate Democrats voiced skepticism about other changes the White House has said it wants that would send the minors back to Central America more quickly, partly by limiting their existing rights to court hearings. Those proposals, which are not part of Tuesday's request, have infuriated immigrant advocates who say they would result in harsher treatment of kids and eliminate their legal protections.

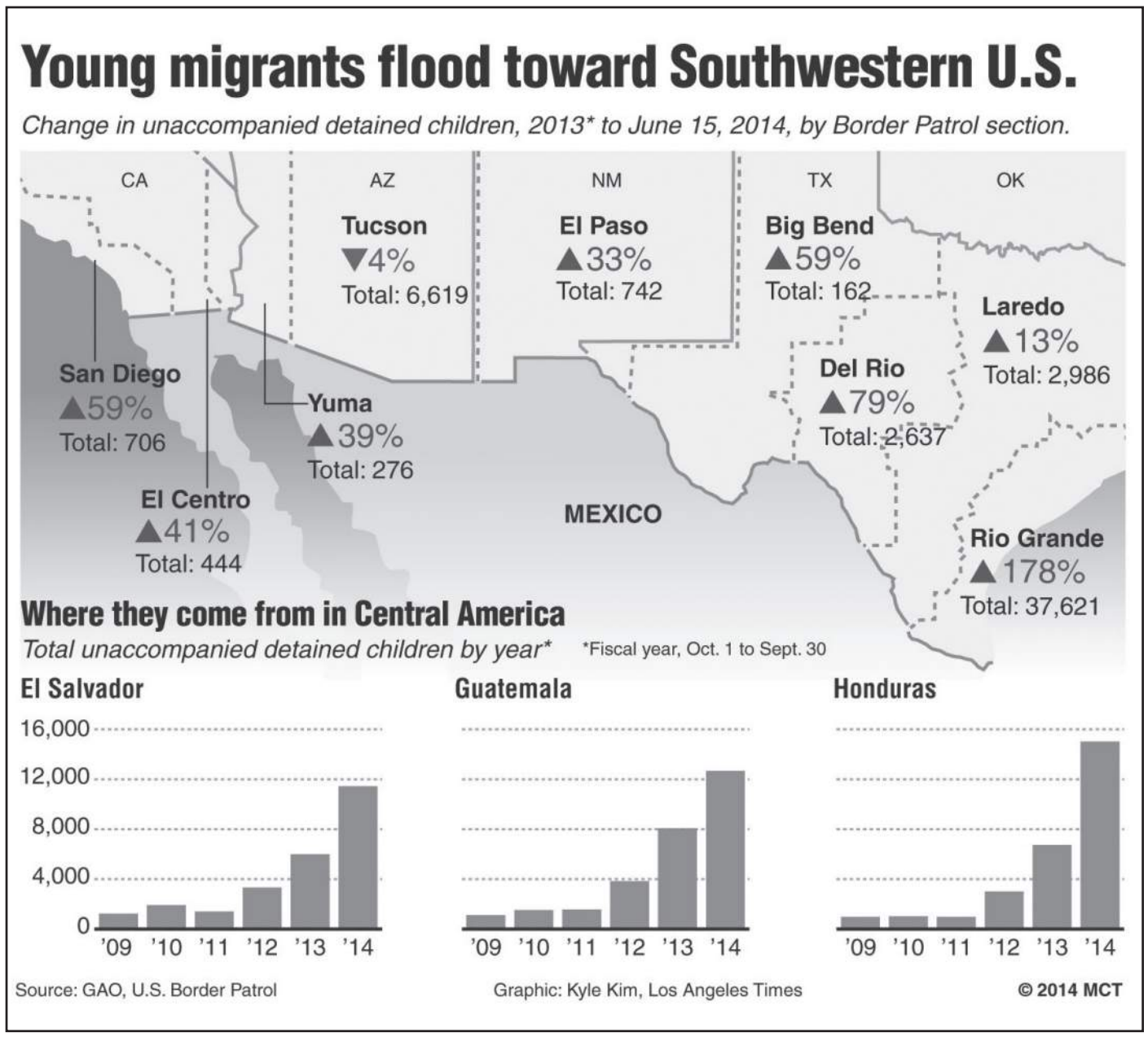
"Everybody's very concerned. I'm one of them," said Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill. "I just want to make sure that at the end of the day we're being fair, humane and doing this in an orderly way."

At the same time Republicans criticized Obama for stepping back from asking for those legal changes, which the White House initially had said would come in concert with the emergency spending request. The White House now says those proposals will come later.

"He just decided not to do that because of the pushback he got from some in his own political base," said Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas. "We need to solve the problem, but you don't need to just ignore the cause of the current crisis. And that requires more than just appropriating $3.7 billion for additional judges and the like."

The back-and-forth came as lawmakers reconvened on Capitol Hill after a weeklong July 4 recess and suggested political struggles ahead over the unfolding situation at the border. More than 50,000 young people have showed up unaccompanied since last fall, many fleeing oppressive violence in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, but also drawn by rumors that once in the U.S. they would be allowed to stay.

Lawmakers are now beginning to confront the full dimensions of the crisis, and their responsibility to act, with midterm elections around the corner. It all comes with comprehensive immigration legislation dead in Congress for the year and Obama preparing to take steps by his executive authority to change the nation's faulty immigration system where he can—plans that could be complicated by the border crisis.



Patrol head says he's shocked by beating video

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The head of the California Highway Patrol said he was shocked and the agency's reputation is hurt by a video showing an officer repeatedly punching a woman he pinned on the side of a Los Angeles freeway.

CHP Commissioner Joe Farrow vowed to complete a comprehensive investigation in weeks instead of the usual months.

The CHP said the woman was walking on Interstate 10 west of downtown Los Angeles, endangering herself and people in traffic, and the officer was trying to restrain her. The woman had begun walking off the freeway but returned when the confrontation occurred.

The now-viral video shot by a passing freeway driver shows Marlene Pinnock, 51, being repeatedly punched as she's straddled by the officer on the shoulder of the freeway.

"This is one of the most significant events of my 34-year career that I've ever dealt with," Farrow said. "We've never seen this before."

Farrow spoke at a news conference Tuesday after a two-hour meeting with community and civil rights leaders, the second involving CHP officials since the July 1 incident occurred.

"I heard them loud and clear," he said. "We put the issue right on the table in front of us. We're dealing with it. We're not going to run and hide."

Farrow said state law prevents him from revealing the officer's name. The officer has been with the department for a year and a half and has been assigned to desk duty pending the investigation's completion.

Sgt. Denise Joslin said officials are working in conjunction with the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office on the investigation. Members of the Los Angeles Police Department were also present at Tuesday's meeting and offered their support, she said.

The investigation will primarily focus on the video itself, Farrow said.

"The whole issue ... comes down to what happened when the encounter got into a physical altercation," Farrow said. "What was the cause for (the officer) to use force? And that's where we are right now."

No other video was taken. The in-car video didn't capture the incident, which took place behind the highway patrol vehicle, Farrow said.

Rev. K.W. Tulloss, who heads the Los Angeles chapter of the National Action Network, said he appreciated Farrow and other top CHP officials meeting with community activists but said they wouldn't back down from pushing for more answers and an outside investigation.

AP: Police give motive in dead baby case

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—A Utah mother told authorities that she killed six of her newborns and stored their bodies in a garage because she was addicted to drugs and didn't want to deal with the responsibility of raising them, police said Tuesday, revealing a suspected motive for the first time.

Megan Huntsman, 39, was heavily into a meth addiction when she strangled or suffocated the infants from 1996 to 2006, Pleasant Grove Police Capt. Mike Roberts told The Associated Press.

She wasn't worried about potential health problems caused by her drug abuse while pregnant, she simply didn't want to care for them, he said. "It was completely selfish. She was high on drugs and didn't want the babies, or the responsibility," Roberts said. "That was her priority at the time."

Authorities think a seventh baby found in her Pleasant Grove garage after an April search was stillborn.

Police had previously declined to discuss a motive in the case, saying only that it had been uncovered during interviews with Huntsman.

Huntsman has been held in Utah County Jail since April 13, and her bail has been set at $6 million. She has been charged with six counts of first-degree murder and is due in court in Provo on July 21. She has not yet entered a plea.

Her lawyer, public defender Anthony Howell, declined comment Tuesday, saying office policy prevents him from discussing open cases.

Huntsman's estranged husband, Darren West, spent more than eight years in federal prison after pleading guilty to meth charges. He was released to a halfway house in Salt Lake City in January.

West made the grisly discovery April 12 while cleaning out the garage of the home he had shared with Huntsman. He told police he found a dead infant in a small white box covered with electrician's tape.

Six other bodies were found after police obtained a search warrant. Documents show the newborns had been wrapped in shirts or towels inside individual boxes in the garage.

West lived with Huntsman during the decade their children were killed before going to federal prison in 2006, but he isn't a suspect in the deaths, Roberts said. Investigators don't know how he could have been oblivious to the pregnancies or deaths, but they don't plan to bring him in for further questioning.

AP
In this April 21, 2014 file photo, Megan Huntsman, accused of killing six of her babies and storing their bodies in her garage, appears in court, in Provo, Utah.

Huntsman remains the only suspect in the investigation, which remains open, Roberts said. Results of a psychological examination of Huntsman haven't been disclosed.

DNA results revealed Tuesday showed that all seven babies were full term and that five were girls and two were boys. Those tests also confirmed that West was biological father of the infants.

Previous tests from the Utah state lab found that the babies were likely dead anywhere from two to 10 years or more, Roberts said.

Asia

US, China eye better cooperation

BEIJING (AP)—The United States and China vowed Wednesday to improve their economic and security cooperation, saying they wouldn't let persistent differences over maritime claims, cyberhacking and currency hamper a relationship critical to global peace and prosperity.

Opening this year's "Strategic and Economic Dialogue," Chinese President Xi Jinping stressed the need to avoid confrontation between nations accounting for a quarter of the world's people and a third of the global economy.

His theme was largely echoed by Secretary of State John Kerry and Treasury Secretary Jack Lew, leaders of an American delegation that also included Federal Reserve chair Janet Yellen and three other Obama administration Cabinet members.

Nevertheless, the next two days are a test of whether the annual high-level talks can produce tough compromises or just serve as a venue to talk about greater cooperation.

Washington hopes to secure closer coordination with China against climate change, an end to Chinese industrial cyberespionage against American companies and stricter rules governing territorial claims in Asia's contested, resource-rich seas.

Xi made clear China wouldn't be pushed around.

"The vast Pacific Ocean has ample space to accommodate our two great nations," he said through an interpreter.

Differences between the U.S. and China, he said, were "natural." Yet he said the only path forward was respect for each other's sovereignty and to "refrain from imposing your will or model on other side." And in a reference to China's territorial disputes with its neighbors, he said the U.S. must respect Chinese "territorial integrity."

American allies Japan and the Philippines, as well as Vietnam, have become increasingly worried by Chinese efforts to drill for oil or assert authority in waters they consider their own. China also has tried to enforce control over contested airspace.

Girl raped, killed on train in Thailand

BANGKOK (AP)—The rape and murder of a 13-year-old girl, who was shoved off a moving train on an overnight trip from southern Thailand, has sparked public outrage and calls for capital punishment for rapists.

The body of the girl was discovered early Tuesday morning near the train tracks in Prachuap Khirikhan province's Pranburi district, said Police Col. Napanwut Liemsa-nguan, the commander of the police's Children and Women Protection Division.

The girl, who was returning with her sisters from a visit to their grandmother, had disappeared Saturday night from a sleeping berth en route from the southern province of Surat Thani to the capital, Bangkok. The route is also popular among backpackers traveling back from Thailand's island and beach resort destinations.

"Rape cases on public transportation do not occur very often in Thailand, but this case shows that there are loopholes in the system's security which allowed the offender to commit the crimes," Napanwut said.

The man arrested was a railway worker. Napanwut said the suspect told police he was intoxicated from methamphetamine and beer when carrying out the attack. He faced charges of rape, concealing a body and murder, which carries the death penalty.

On Instagram, Thai entertainment stars and celebrities joined the chorus of calls for the law to be changed to make rape punishable only by death. Convicted rapists now face a sentence of four to 20 years in prison and a fine.

Typhoon stops transport, knocks out power in Japan

TOKYO (AP)—A typhoon paralyzed transportation and knocked out power to thousands on the southern Japanese islands of Okinawa on Tuesday.

The Okinawan government said 17 people were injured, one seriously. Separately, a man was reported missing from a fishing boat in rough seas off Kyushu island, to the north.

One of the strongest and biggest typhoons to hit during Japan's summer, Typhoon Neoguri was packing sustained winds of 162 kilometers (100 miles) per hour and gusts up to 216 kph (134 mph) in late evening, the Japan Meteorological Agency said.

The storm was weakening, but forecasters said its wide area and slow movement could add to the potential damage. Japan is relatively well prepared for typhoons, but torrential rains could cause greater damage if the typhoon moves across the Japanese archipelago as expected on Thursday or Friday.

"Please refrain from nonessential activities and from approaching hazardous areas," said Meteorological Agency official Satoshi Ebihara. "Please show extreme caution."

Local airports were closed and nearly 600,000 people were advised to evacuate their homes, though most stayed put, taking refuge from the destructive winds, waves up to 14 meters (46 feet) high and storm surges that were set to intensify as the storm passed the main island of Okinawa in the evening and headed north toward Kyushu. Almost 100,000 homes remained out of electricity late Tuesday.

More than half of the 50,000 U.S. troops in Japan are based in Okinawa, the location of several bases, including Kadena, the biggest U.S. air base in Asia. An advisory on its website said all outdoor activity was prohibited due to the storm.

AP

Women hold umbrellas against powerful gusts of wind on a street in Naha, Okinawa, southern Japan, Tuesday, July 8, 2014.

World

Israel offensive vs Gaza Strip starts

AP

An Israeli missile explodes on impact in Rafah, southern Gaza Strip, on Tuesday, July 8, 2014.

JERUSALEM (AP)—Israel on Tuesday launched its largest offensive in the Gaza Strip in nearly two years, carrying out a blistering aerial assault on scores of targets and killing 25 people in what officials called an open-ended operation aimed at ending weeks of heavy rocket fire. As Gaza militants unleashed salvos on cities including Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, Israel mobilized forces along the border for a possible ground invasion.

The offensive set off the heaviest fighting between Israel and the Islamic militant group Hamas since an eight-day battle in November 2012. The militants fired about 160 rockets at Israel, including a strike that reached the northern city of Hadera for the first time, while Israel said it attacked more than 150 sites across Gaza.

Palestinian medics reported at least 25 dead, including six killed in an airstrike that flattened an apartment building in southern Gaza and set off widespread panic.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said continued rocket attacks on Israeli communities would not be tolerated.

"Therefore I have ordered the military to significantly broaden its operation against Hamas terrorists and against the other terrorist groups inside Gaza," he said on national TV. "I call on you to display patience because this operation could take time."

Israel and Hamas are bitter enemies that have engaged in numerous rounds of fighting over the years. But until recently, they had been observing a truce that ended the previous hostilities in 2012.

Tensions have been rising since Palestinian militants kidnapped three Israeli teenagers in the West Bank on June 12. Accusing Hamas of being behind the abductions, Israel launched a crackdown on the group's members in the West Bank and arrested hundreds of people. Hamas, which controls Gaza, responded by stepping up rocket fire.

WORLD BRIEFS

Ukraine takes aggressive stance toward separatists

DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)—Ukraine's government took an increasingly aggressive stance Tuesday toward the pro-Russia separatists, vowing to expunge them from their reduced area of control and imposing new conditions before peace talks can restart. But as the military moves to encircle the rebel-held territory in eastern Ukraine, the government also said it would stop using the air and artillery strikes that drove the rebels from other towns so as to avoid terrorizing civilians. Ukraine has displayed growing confidence in recent days after driving the insurgents from Slovyansk, a city that had been the heart of the armed resistance since mid-April. Security officials said Tuesday the area held by the rebels has now been reduced by half.

Troops retake stormed Somali presidential palace

MOGADISHU, Somalia (AP)—Somali troops retook the presidential palace in the capital of Mogadishu after militants forced their way in and exchanged heavy gunfire with troops and guards Tuesday, the latest attack underscoring the threat posed by Islamic extremist group al-Shabab in east Africa. Smoke billowed from inside the heavily-fortified presidential compound, and loud explosions and gunfire could be heard as troops tried to repel the intruders. After more than two hours of fighting, Somalia's presidency said in a Twitter update that "the shameful attack" had been foiled by Somalia's armed forces fighting alongside African Union peacekeepers. Al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack.

Nigeria: 'Good news' soon on kidnapped girls

ABUJA, Nigeria (AP)—Nigeria's National Council of State is promising to deliver "some good news" very soon about more than 200 schoolgirls held captive by Islamic extremists for nearly three months. The council, made up of past presidents, state governors and leaders of parliament, is "satisfied the security agents know very well where the girls are located," Gov. Godwill Akpabio told reporters at a briefing. The rescue of the girls was top of the agenda at the meeting Tuesday, he said, and "military authorities also confirmed that efforts were being made and that very soon we will have good news." The governor added the question is not whether the girls can be rescued but how to do it without endangering their lives. He said the council, which was addressed by President Goodluck Jonathan and his national security advisers, was left confident that the president and the military are "on top of the situation."

Environment

Scientists struggle to figure out why ground is shaking in heartland

By SEAN COCKERHAM
MCCLATCHY WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON—Months after the prairie began to shake, scientists still struggle to explain a surge in Kansas earthquakes that appears connected to increased fracking.

The Kansas quakes are part of a major escalation in earthquakes that have struck the nation's heartland in the wake of the oil and gas boom. The epidemic has hit places in Texas and especially Oklahoma where earthquakes used to almost never happen, with scientists increasingly pointing the finger at deep underground injection of drilling waste that effectively lubricates and weakens fault lines.

Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback appointed a task force in February to study the earthquakes in his state and the U.S. Geological Survey started investigating. But the task force is moving slowly and the USGS is lacking information on the area's oil and gas activity.

The Kansas Corporation Commission, the state agency that regulates oil and gas, collects wastewater injection data once a year, in March, said Justin Rubinstein, a geophysicist with the U.S. Geological Survey who has been working on the mystery prairie quakes.

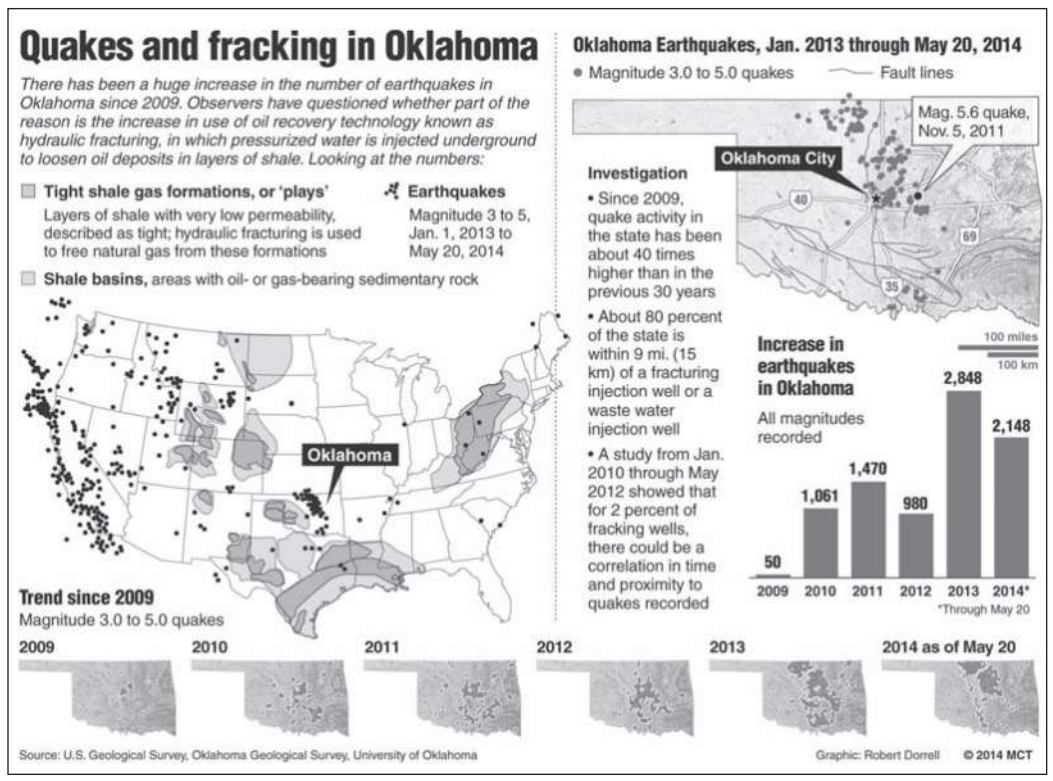
"Unless we get the data sooner it will be very difficult to say anything about whether there is any connection from wastewater wells to the earthquakes until next March," he said.

Rubinstein said potential causes for the quakes include the wastewater injection wells, the fracking process itself, or simply the hand of nature.

"Everything is still on the table at this point," he said.

There is circumstantial evidence, including the fact that the Kansas earthquake surge corresponds to increased oil and gas activity in the area.

There's also the fact that scientists have already linked deep injection of drilling waste to earthquakes just over the border in Oklahoma, which is seeing a massive spike in seismic activity. Oklahoma experienced 145 earthquakes greater than 3.0 magnitude between January and May. That compares to a state long-term average that used to be just two such quakes in an entire year.


Quakes and fracking in Oklahoma
There has been a huge increase in the number of earthquakes in Oklahoma since 2009. Observers have questioned whether part of the reason is the increase in use of oil recovery technology known as hydraulic fracturing, in which pressurized water is injected underground to loosen oil deposits in layers of shale. Looking at the numbers:
Tight shale gas formations, or 'plays'
Layers of shale with very low permeability, described as tight; hydraulic fracturing is used to free natural gas from these formations
Earthquakes
Magnitude 3 to 5, Jan. 1, 2013 to May 20, 2014
Shale basins, areas with oil- or gas-bearing sedimentary rock
Oklahoma
Trend since 2009
Magnitude 3.0 to 5.0 quakes
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014 as of May 20
Oklahoma Earthquakes, Jan. 2013 through May 20, 2014
Magnitude 3.0 to 5.0 quakes
Fault lines
Mag. 5.6 quake, Nov. 5, 2011
Oklahoma City
40
69
35
Investigation
• Since 2009, quake activity in the state has been about 40 times higher than in the previous 30 years
• About 80 percent of the state is within 9 mi. (15 km) of a fracturing injection well or a waste water injection well
• A study from Jan. 2010 through May 2012 showed that for 2 percent of fracking wells, there could be a correlation in time and proximity to quakes recorded
Increase in earthquakes in Oklahoma
All magnitudes recorded
100 miles
100 km
50
1,061
1,470
980
2,848
2,148
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014*
*Through May 20
Source: U.S. Geological Survey, Oklahoma Geological Survey, University of Oklahoma
Graphic: Robert Dorrell
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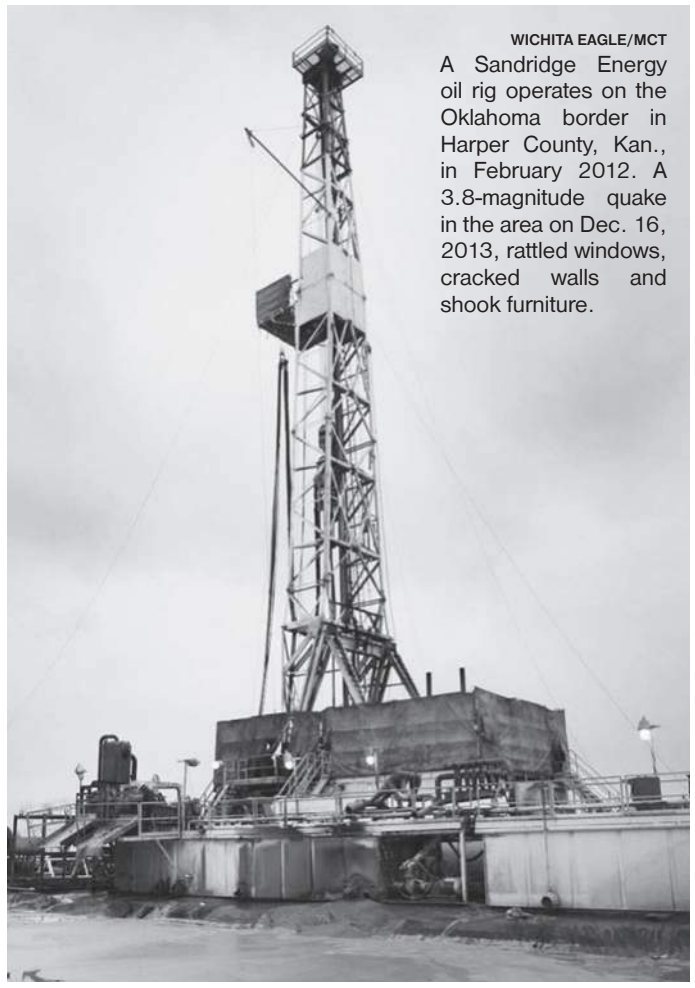


WICHITA EAGLE/MCT
A Sandridge Energy oil rig operates on the Oklahoma border in Harper County, Kan., in February 2012. A 3.8-magnitude quake in the area on Dec. 16, 2013, rattled windows, cracked walls and shook furniture.

"There have been a number of papers that have indicated at least a majority of these earthquakes appear to be induced. They appear to be related to wastewater injection," Rubinstein said.

Scientists warn that the shaking could get stronger. The USGS and the Oklahoma Geological Survey said the intense seismic activity is increasing the likelihood that Central Oklahoma is going to experience damaging earthquakes of greater than 5.5. magnitude.

In Celebration of Her New Life

†Dolores Blas Dela Cruz

"Mama Ling"

Born to life on December 20, 1945
Called to her Eternal Life on July 03, 2014

In her new life she now joins her:
Parents: †Pedro Santos Blas
†Guadalupe Concepcion Basa Blas

Brother/Sister- in law:
†Jesus B. / †Soledad A. Blas

Sisters/Brothers- in law:
†Delgadina B. / †Manuel S. Matagolai
†Maria B. / †Vicente P. Manibusan
†Teresita B / †Jose DLG. Diaz
†Jose M. Mangalona
†Eugenio Repeki

Survived by: Jesus Ogo Dela Cruz
Daughter: Barbara & Jessica Dela Cruz

Special Family: Myrna Encarnacion
Norma Orig
Sebero Tabayoyong
Leonila Genez
Margelita Espiritu

Sisters / Brother-in law:
Lucia B. / Antonio Mendiola and children
Victorina B. / Alejandro R. Cabrera and children
Casilda B. Blas and children
Emiliana B. Manglona and children
Asinta B. / Augustine Pangelinan and children
Leonora A. Blas and children

Mama Ling is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Mass of Intentions are being offered at San Vicente Church at 6:00pm.

On Saturday, July 12, 2014, Mama Ling's remains will leave Nuestra Señora Dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:30am and will be escorted to Mount Carmel Cathedral. Responso Service will be at 8:00am followed by the Holy Rosary. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am and Interment Service will take place at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery where Mama Ling will be laid to eternal rest.

Thank you - Un Dungkulu na Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Ginen I Familia

EPA wants updated rules to reduce harmful pollution from new landfills

WASHINGTON—As part of the President's Climate Action Plan – Strategy to Reduce Methane Emissions, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is proposing updates to its air standards for new municipal solid waste landfills. These updates would require certain landfills to capture additional landfill gas, which would reduce emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas, and help further reduce pollution that harms public health. The agency also is seeking broad public feedback on how and whether to update guidelines for existing landfills.

Non-hazardous waste from homes, business and institutions ends up in municipal solid waste landfills, where it decomposes and breaks down to form landfill gas, which includes carbon dioxide, a number of air toxics and methane. Methane has a global warming potential 25 times that of carbon dioxide.

"Reducing methane emissions is a powerful way to take action on climate change," said Administrator Gina McCarthy. "This latest step from the President's methane strategy builds on our progress to date and takes steps to cut emissions from landfills through commonsense standards."

Today's proposal would require new MSW landfills subject to the rule to begin controlling landfill gas at a lower emissions threshold than currently required. Under the proposal, landfills would capture two-thirds of their methane and air toxics emissions by 2023—13 percent more than required under current rules. EPA estimates the net nationwide annual costs of complying with the additional requirements in the proposed rule would be $471,000 in 2023.

» Public input also sought on potential updates to guidelines for existing landfills

Today, methane accounts for nearly 9 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions in the United States, and landfills are the third-largest source of human-related methane in the country, accounting for 18 percent of methane emissions in 2012. Regulatory and voluntary programs, including the agency's Landfill Methane Outreach Program, have helped reduce emissions from landfills by 30 percent from 1990 to 2012. However, without additional actions, methane emissions are projected to increase through 2030.

Also, EPA issued an Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking seeking broad public input on whether and how to update current emissions guidelines for existing landfills to further reduce their emissions, including methane. The agency is considering updating those guidelines based on a several factors, including significant changes that have occurred in the landfill industry since the original guidelines were issued in 1996. Nearly 1,000 MSW landfills in the U.S. currently are subject to either the 1996 emission guidelines for existing landfills or the 1996 NSPS for new landfills.

EPA will take public comment on the proposed performance standards updates and the ANPR for 60 days after they are published in the *Federal Register*. If a hearing is requested, it will be held on Aug. 12, 2014 in Washington, D.C. ***(EPA)***

Life & Style

Diagon Alley opens with long lines, die-hard Potter fans

Harry Potter is back in new J.K. Rowling story

LONDON (AP)—Harry Potter is back—mysterious, married, and going gray.

J.K. Rowling has given fans a glimpse of the grown-up boy wizard in a new story posted Tuesday on her Pottermore website.

It's the first update since "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows" was published in 2007, but Rowling spokesman Mark Hutchinson said there are "no plans" for a new Potter novel.

Rowling

The 1,500-word story describes Harry, about to turn 34, attending the final of the Quidditch World Cup with his family and old friends Ron and Hermione.

Harry now has "threads of silver" in his hair and a mysterious cut on his cheekbone, related to his "top secret" work as an evil-battling Auror.

The story is written in the style of a gossip column for the Daily Prophet by reporter Rita Skeeter, a minor character in the novels.

The style allows Rowling to poke fun at the tabloid press, a real-life bugbear that she has accused of invading her privacy and that of her family.

Skeeter observes that Harry and friends are "no longer the fresh-faced teenagers they were in their heyday" and speculates about the state of Harry's marriage to Ginny Weasley.

She says Ron Weasley's red hair "appears to be thinning slightly," and notes witheringly that Harry still wears "the distinctive round glasses that some might say are better suited to a style-deficient 12-year-old."

The story discloses that Ron now runs the family joke shop, while Hermione is a—literally—high-flying civil servant, Deputy Head of the Department of Magical Law Enforcement.

There are also updates on other characters, including Neville Longbottom and Luna Lovegood, as well as glimpses of a new generation of teenage wizards.

Rowling has long said that "Deathly Hallows," would be the last Potter novel, but has produced other Potter-related material, including spin-off story collection, "The Tales of Beedle the Bard."

Rowling has also published a novel for adults, "The Casual Vacancy," and two detective thrillers under the pseudonym Robert Galbraith.

By DEWAYNE BEVIL and SANDRA PEDICINI
ORLANDO SENTINEL

ORLANDO, Fla.—Thousands of happy Harry Potter fans transformed Diagon Alley into a street party—and an endurance test—as Universal Studios' new attraction opened its gates Tuesday.

Parkgoers stood in a snaking queue for at least two hours to get into the new Wizarding World of Harry Potter—Diagon Alley. Many then joined yet another line to board Harry Potter and the Escape From Gringotts, the attraction's signature ride.

By early afternoon, the park's posted wait for the ride reached 450 minutes—enough time to watch the last three Harry Potter movies.

The time commitment did not deter 17-year-old Ariana Median of Westchester, N.Y., who had been told the ride "was totally worth it." She anticipated an amped-up version of other Universal Orlando rides, she said—"like Spider-Man, Transformers and the Mummy mixed together."

The 3D Gringotts ride combines roller-coaster maneuvers with on-screen action featuring heroic Harry and the villainous Lord Voldemort and Bellatrix, characters from the "Potter" books written by J.K. Rowling and transformed into eight blockbuster films.

ORLANDO SENTINEL/MCT
Cheering fans rush the entrance of Diagon Alley during the grand opening at the Wizarding World of Harry Potter expansion, at Universal Studios Florida, in Orlando, Tuesday, July 8, 2014.

Danielle Johnson, 26, of Melbourne found the new ride faster and more intense than Harry Potter and the Forbidden Journey, which debuted in 2010 with the original Wizarding World of Harry Potter at nearby Islands of Adventure theme park.

"You're trapped in a vault, and it's high-speed, and it's fast, and you're trying to escape ... and you're, like, scared," said Johnson, who fashioned a Potter magic wand into a hair accessory.

Although Diagon Alley previews were held for several days, the Gringotts ride had technical problems and rarely operated during those times. The ride worked consistently Tuesday morning but shut down for about 45 minutes in the early afternoon.

Guests were escorted off the ride at least once. Universal would not provide details about how many times the ride broke down during the day.

Elsewhere, the park's new "enchanted wands" triggered special effects, such as making water shoot from a frog's mouth. The souvenirs, which sell for $45, got high marks from D.J. Delvecchio, 21, of Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

"They're incredibly responsive. They work exactly like you'd expect them to," he said. "I feel like I'm 12 years old and in Harry Potter books."

Others had tougher luck. Alex Williamson, 23, of Seminole tried repeatedly to make an image of a skeleton dance along with his wand movement in the Knockturn Alley area, but it didn't work.

"Maybe I'm not doing it right," he said.

Diagon Alley is included in regular Universal Studios admission. A one-day ticket is $96 ($90 for ages 3-9). However, to experience both halves of the Wizarding World, including the Hogwarts Express train that connects the two theme parks, guests must buy a ticket that permits passing between them. Those sell for $136 ($130 for ages 3-9).

In Celebration of His New Life

Arthur Mechol M. Sibetang
D.O.B.: July 01, 1953
D.O.D.: July 06, 2014

In his new life he now joins his:
Wife: †Faustina Saburo, lovingly known as "Obi"
Father: †Mukai Sibetang
Uncle: †Beketaut Madraisau
Aunt: †Urcherriang Mechol

He will be survived by his:
Mother: Ngeream Madraisau
Brothers: Wilson Olblai, Franklin Kerai, Ngirchau Ruluked, Ngesisobl Ruluked
Sisters: Kubarii Ruluked, Lola Ruluked
Son: Arthur Jr. Sibetang
Daughter: Arleen Sibetang
Reared Sisters: Augustina & Benedicta Mechol

Final viewing and last respects will be held at the Borja Funeral Home on Saturday, July 12, 2014 from 9:00a.m. to 3:00p.m. followed by interment at Tanapag Cemetery

Dinner will be held at the Miwata James Residence at Dandan at 4:30pm.

Thank You
The Family

In Humble Gratitude

We, the family of the late

†Lorenza A. Sokau

would like to express our deepest and most sincere appreciation to all our relatives, friends, and neighbors for their kind expression of love, sympathy, personal assistance and support during this difficult time of sorrow in the passing of our beloved mother. Although we know she is rejoicing her new life with our savior, we will miss her dearly. Her warm and loving memories will always be cherished.

Special thanks to our Grace Christian Assembly Family, the Staff of CHCC, the Staff of Asian Hospital in Philippines, KKMP, DOCOMO (MCV), and Saipan Tribune.

Thank You, Mesulang, and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

The Children of †Lorenza A. Sokau

Jerry Sandusky's son tells story to Oprah Winfrey

AP

This June 27, 2014 image released by OWN shows Matt Sandusky, the adopted son of former Penn State University assistant football coach Jerry Sandusky, during an interview with Oprah Winfrey, airing on OWN on Thursday, July 17.

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP)—Jerry Sandusky's adult son is speaking out about what he says was sexual abuse by his father.

The Oprah Winfrey Network announced Tuesday that Winfrey's interview with Matt Sandusky will be broadcast on July 17.

The network says Matt Sandusky describes grooming, methodical control and manipulation by his father.

He's one of six children Jerry and Dottie Sandusky adopted.

Matt Sandusky settled a civil claim against Penn State. His allegations weren't part of the criminal case that ended two years ago with a 45-count conviction for Jerry Sandusky, who is serving a lengthy prison sentence.

At the time of the trial, Matt Sandusky claimed the abuse started when he was 8 years old. He recalled in a police interview that he would pretend to be asleep to avoid being touched.

Stevie Nicks joining 'The Voice' as adviser

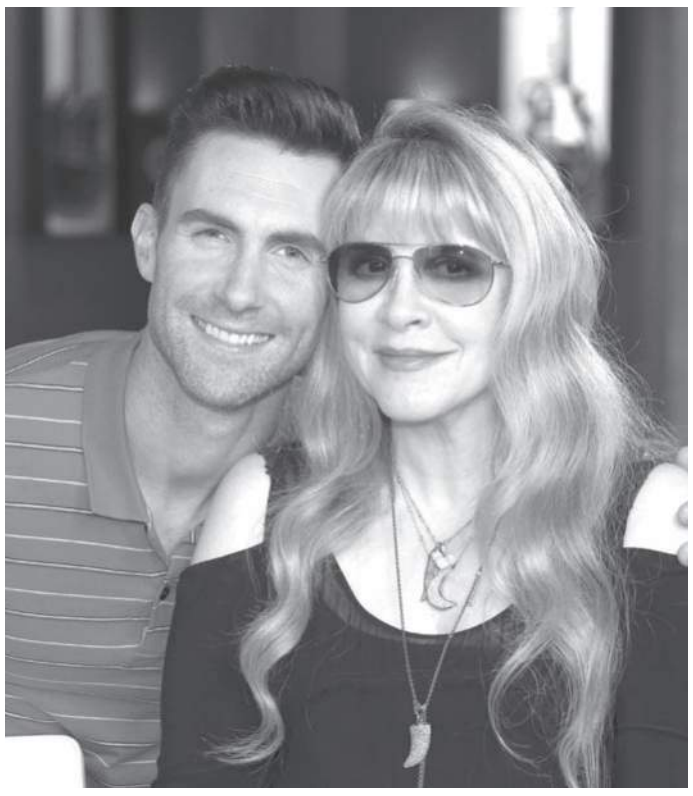
LOS ANGELES (AP)—Stevie Nicks is joining "The Voice" as an adviser to Adam Levine's team for the upcoming season.

Filming is currently underway on the show's seventh season. Nicks, the 66-year-old Fleetwood Mac singer, has been working with Levine and his 12 team members as they assign songs and rehearse with the contestants in preparation for the show's battle rounds.

Levine and Blake Shelton will be joined by Gwen Stefani and Pharrell Williams as coaches when the NBC show returns on Sept. 22.

The network says it will soon announce other advisers for this season.

Fleetwood Mac is set to embark on a 33-city tour starting Sept. 30 in Minneapolis, with Nicks, Lindsey Buckingham, Mick Fleetwood, John McVie and his ex-wife Christine McVie.



AP

This July 7, 2014 image released by NBC shows Adam Levine, left, and Stevie Nicks in Los Angeles.

Pop-rocker scores song to soothe anxious canines

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Score one for the dogs.

DogTV, the 2-year-old television network for dogs, asked Grammy-winning musician Andrew Dost of the pop-rock band fun. to write some psychoacoustic music for the network.

The unnamed result, nearly four minutes of harp, piano and repetitive electronic undertones, debuted Monday during a relaxation segment.

"I approached this composition project differently than I would for human ears. I made sure the range of frequencies and instrumentation were tailored to a dog's unique sense of hearing and kept things musically more level and linear," Dost said in a statement.

The music accompanies video recorded in Yosemite and together are designed to reduce the stress and anxiety dogs experience when they are home alone.

Dost is donate his pay to A Rejoyceful Animal Rescue, a shelter in his hometown of Detroit.

Members of fun. are singer Nate Ruess, guitarist Jack Antonoff and the multi-instrumentalist Dost. The group had a breakthrough year in 2012, topping charts with "We Are Young" and "Some Nights." Last year, they won Grammys for song of the year and best new artist.

DogTV debuted in April of 2012 with three kinds of programming: relaxation, stimulation and exposure.

Relaxation segments, like the Yosemite video with Dost's music, are for canines that might be home alone and a little too zealous and overactive. At times dogs might lack stimulation, so they will need segments showing action and animation to add pep. And through the exposure segments, dogs will be taught to feel more comfortable in their environment when they are exposed to everyday sights and sounds they might find on the street.

DogTV is a pay channel. Prices vary depending on the provider. DirecTV charges $4.99 a month and online streaming service is $9.99.

Sean Hayes joins cast of CBS sitcom 'The Millers'

LOS ANGELES (AP)—CBS says popular sitcom star Sean Hayes is joining the cast of its comedy "The Millers" as a series regular.

Hayes will play the new best friend of the character played by Margo Martindale and a new source of friction for her son, played by Will Arnett, CBS said on Tuesday.

Hayes is best-known from eight seasons on the sitcom "Will & Grace." Last season he starred in the comedy series "Sean Saves the World."

"The Millers," which premiered last fall, is a family comedy also starring Beau Bridges and J.B. Smoove. Its second season begins Oct. 30.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Al Jazeera America says it's building to last

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—As it approaches its first birthday, Al Jazeera America anchor Tony Harris says he's surprised by how good the network is. The journalistic performance of the network hasn't been reflected by its audience size, though. Viewership remains very low. But like Harris, network President Kate O'Brian voiced confidence on Tuesday that viewers will catch up with it. She called its corporate parents—the Qatar-based Al Jazeera Media Network—"extremely supportive" and in it for the long run. Al Jazeera America, which launched on Aug. 20, 2013, has marketed itself as a hard-news and documentary network without a political slant and little interest in fluff. Harris and O'Brian made the comments during the summer television critics' tour.

Discovery Life Channel to premiere next year

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP)—Discovery Communications says its fitness network will undergo a transformation to Discovery Life Channel early next year. The new network will focus on ordinary people in extraordinary situations as they overcome hardships and take risks. These include medical mysteries as well as extreme human conditions, Discovery said Tuesday. Discovery Life Channel will retain some programming from Discovery Fit & Health, the channel it supplants. New shows include "Ripped Kids," which will profile the world's strongest kids, and "Tales from the Maternity Ward." The network, which premieres Jan. 15, will be available in 47 million homes.

Woman thinks bride-to-be's friendship isn't worth the cost

DEAR ABBY: My best friend is getting married and asked me to be her maid of honor. She has also asked me to buy an expensive dress, host a lavish shower I'm afraid I can't afford and plan a destination bachelorette party. The cost will be exorbitant.

On top of this, she has asked me to be her "cover" when she lies to her fiance about where she is. She has admitted to me that she has cheated on him, and I think she's doing it again.

I know it's not my place to question her or tell her what to do, but this has made me hesitant to commit financially to her wedding. Should I talk to her about this? I don't want to lose my best friend, but I also don't want to put my money on the line for someone who isn't being honest.

DRAGGING MY HEELS IN NEW YORK

DEAR DRAGGING YOUR HEELS: Do not question your friend or tell her what to do, but DO convey to her that you can't function as her maid of honor because you can't afford the cost. And the next time she asks you to cover for her, tell her you no longer want to be a party to deceiving her fiance because you're having trouble looking him in the eye.

Your best friend sounds like a piece of work, and if it costs you the friendship you won't have lost much. This girl lacks both judgment and character, and you'll be better off to distance yourself. Both of you should mingle with people with whom you have more in common.

DEAR ABBY: I don't know where to start so I will just plunge in: I have five kids by five different men. I am not a terrible person. I have a job, take care of my babies and am working toward a degree. But sometimes I feel like the ultimate loser. I get judged all the time. I'm so ashamed of the choices I have made in life. Will it ever be better?

KIDS, 5 DADS IN OREGON

DEAR 5-5: You will see an improvement as soon as you stop beating yourself up over the choices you have made. No one can change the past. All we can do is learn from our mistakes and make a conscious decision not to repeat them. And as to those who judge you, they should judge not, lest they, too, be judged.

DEAR ABBY: My husband thinks we should snuggle up and sleep together even when we're sick. I think it's common courtesy to keep a respectable distance from loved ones and to clean up after yourself when you have a "bug" that is communicable. I need to stay as healthy as possible to keep up with the needs of our child, the housework and my job while my husband is sick.

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Your thoughts?

MARRIED TO A MAN-CHILD WHO NEEDS A MOMMY

DEAR MARRIED TO A MAN-CHILD: Your husband may think I'm heartless, but I agree with you. While he may "need" you emotionally, his rational self should accept that with a child in the house and the demands of your job, you need to stay well and functional.

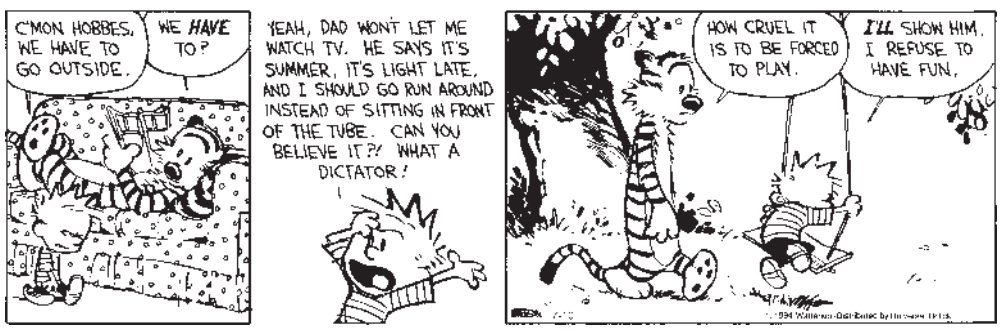
His tissues, meds and a pitcher of water should be by the bed. There should be a wastebasket for his tissues. He should wash his hands before touching anything, and you should use hand sanitizer liberally. You should sleep elsewhere. The "cuddling" can wait until he's no longer contagious.

P.S. And don't forget to sympathize.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

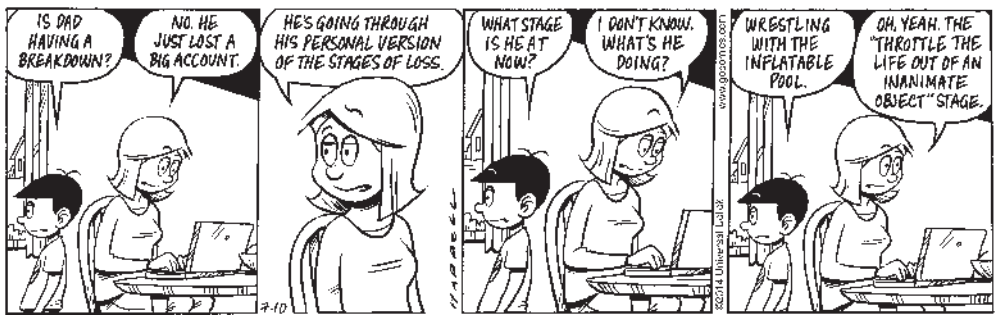

C'MON HOBBES, WE HAVE TO GO OUTSIDE.
WE HAVE TO?
YEAH, DAD WON'T LET ME WATCH TV. HE SAYS IT'S SUMMER, IT'S LIGHT LATE, AND I SHOULD GO RUN AROUND INSTEAD OF SITTING IN FRONT OF THE TUBE. CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?! WHAT A DICTATOR!
HOW CRUEL IT IS TO BE FORCED TO PLAY.
I'LL SHOW HIM. I REFUSE TO HAVE FUN.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

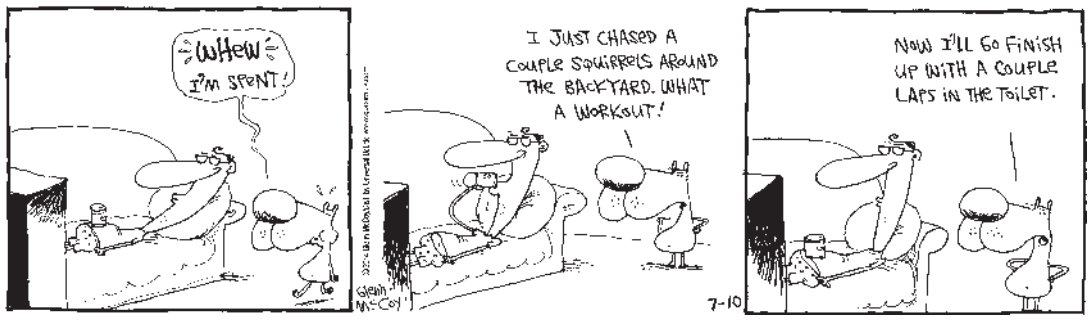
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


IS DAD HAVING A BREAKDOWN?
NO. HE JUST LOST A BIG ACCOUNT.
HE'S GOING THROUGH HIS PERSONAL VERSION OF THE STAGES OF LOSS.
WHAT STAGE IS HE AT NOW?
I DON'T KNOW. WHAT'S HE DOING?
WRESTLING WITH THE INFLATABLE POOL.
OH, YEAH. THE "THROTTLE THE LIFE OUT OF AN INANIMATE OBJECT" STAGE.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


"Whew I'm spent!"
I JUST CHASED A COUPLE SQUIRRELS AROUND THE BACKYARD. WHAT A WORKOUT!
NOW I'LL GO FINISH UP WITH A COUPLE LAPS IN THE TOILET.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

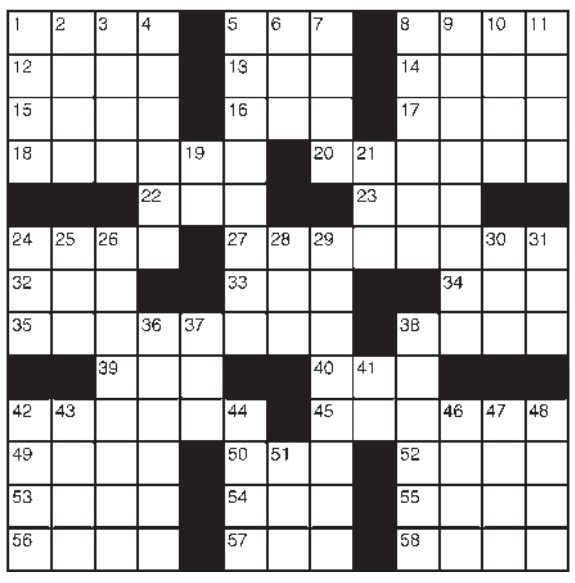
ACROSS
1 Ella's specialty
5 Convent denizen
8 Flight component
12 Horseback game
13 Praise in verse
14 "Damn Yankees" vamp
15 Biblical kingdom
16 Present
17 Austen heroine
18 Mambo and samba
20 Quake
22 Chopper
23 Wall climber
24 Barn storage area
27 Paginated
32 Playwright Levin
33 Mme., across the Pyrenees
34 Reproductive cells
35 Hastily
38 Remain
39 Dah preceder
40 Puncturing tool
42 Spielberg or Soderbergh
45 Go back into business
49 Employ
50 Request
52 Lima land
53 Exam format
54 Understand
55 Rewrite, maybe
56 Jack and Jill's destination
57 24-Across contents
58 Deadly septet

DOWN
1 Raced
2 Pop flavor
3 "Two and a Half Men" role
4 Alley wanderer, often
5 Poppycock
6 Japanese salad veggie
7 Mr. Gingrich
8 Place for an ace?
9 Poppycock
10 Ticklish Muppet
11 Early "Tonight Show" host
19 Alimony recipient
21 Cage component
24 Back talk
25 Raw rock
26 Poppycock
28 Web address
29 Poppycock
30 Actress Mendes
31 Rotation duration
36 Jim who rode Apollo 13
37 Larry's pal
38 Skiers' mecca
41 Lindbergh book
42 Presentation
43 Grow weary
44 Partner of Crosby and Stills
46 It often accompanies a mani
47 "— go bragh!"
48 Crazy
51 Vast expanse

Solution time: 24 mins.

H	E	R	A		M	A	S		S	T	A	B
O	R	A	N		A	R	T		H	I	K	E
L	O	N	G	T	I	M	E		A	M	I	D
A	S	T	O	R			M	A	V	F	N	S
			R	I	S	E		C	E	L		
F	A	L	A		L	A	M	E		I	H	A
I	D	C		D	I	V	A	S		N	J	N
B	A	N		O	P	E	N		D	E	B	T
		G	R	U		S	O	F	A			
A	B	H	O	R	S			A	L	L	A	N
R	O	A	M			H	A	I	R	L	I	E
C	L	I	P		A	G	O		A	M	O	S
H	E	R	S		M	E	N		S	E	N	T

Yesterday's answer 7-10



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Jessica Simpson, 34; Adrian Grenier, 38; Sofia Vergara, 42; Arlo Guthrie, 67.

Happy Birthday: Take a moment to regroup. It's not about quantity; it's about quality. Consider your happiness and adjust your plans to suit your goals. Don't wait for a better time to pursue personal goals or it will never happen. Seize the moment and make your dreams come true. Stop feeling obligated to take care of everyone else before taking care of yourself. Your numbers are 9, 16, 20, 28, 37, 40, 44.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): You will be tempted to spend on luxury items. You can have fun without being indulgent. An important relationship can be enhanced with less possessiveness and more passion. Self-improvement projects will turn out well. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Concentrate on putting your own personal touch on any job you do. Taking an active or aggressive role in your professional advancement will have its benefits. Making a convenient change at home will improve your comfort and lower your stress. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Consider your current personal situation and what you can do to improve your relationship with those you deal with the most. Reviewing the past will help you make a wise choice now. Question motives and be honest about the way you feel. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Keep whatever you do simple and within your means. Moderation is key and not overreacting is necessary. A change of plans may not sit well with you, but it shouldn't stop you from continuing down the path that you feel suits you best. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Make changes at home that add to your comfort and convenience. Offering assistance to someone who interests you will bring you closer together. Share your feelings and offer alternatives with regard to your current relationship. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): Be careful whom you share your personal information with. Don't mix business with pleasure. Stick to your game plan and don't make changes to your financial investments. An offer will not be as good as it appears. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Share your thoughts diplomatically and you will get your way. Any pressure or lack of courtesy will work against you. Listen carefully to what a partner has to say, but don't overreact or you will end up in a stalemate. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Expand your interests and friendships to include something or someone unusual and you will learn something valuable. A change at work or within the industry you belong to will cause alarm. Don't overreact; it won't be as bad as you anticipate. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Uncertainty regarding your direction or who is on your side and who isn't will develop. Look at your options and head toward the people and the path that will bring you the greatest satisfaction and pleasure. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Don't take a risk. You are best to stick to what you know works best. Prepare to deal with the unexpected and counteract any situation that has the potential to disrupt a partnership that is vital to your future plans. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Put greater emphasis on you and what you can do to improve your home, business, finances and love life. One main alteration can have a snowball effect that will improve your life. Helping someone you love will result in personal rewards. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Moving, renovations and home improvements will end up costing more than you anticipate, causing stress and emotional turmoil. Sticking to a set budget or revising your plans to fit your financial criteria will be necessary. Emotional manipulation is apparent. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are curious, outspoken and clever. You are open-minded and steadfast.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

8			2			1		9
				3		8		
6	9		7					
				9		2		7
	1						6	
3		9		8				
					5		3	4
		5		4				
9		6			3			2

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/10

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	9	2	5	6	7	8	4	1
7	4	5	8	1	9	6	3	2
8	6	1	4	3	2	5	9	7
1	3	6	9	4	5	2	7	8
5	8	9	7	2	3	4	1	6
4	2	7	6	8	1	3	5	9
6	1	8	3	7	4	9	2	5
9	7	3	2	5	6	1	8	4
2	5	4	1	9	8	7	6	3

Difficulty Level ★★★ 7/10

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE RUBIK'S CUBE TURNS 40 Solution: 9 letters

E	R	N	O	R	T	E	R	E	N	R	O	C	H	H
L	L	A	B	S	V	E	G	N	A	R	O	Y	T	U
N	R	A	E	L	K	S	G	N	I	R	P	S	O	N
M	O	A	O	C	U	C	X	D	E	E	P	S	Y	G
N	W	S	I	T	A	E	I	E	N	I	N	A	G	A
O	S	T	P	O	P	R	S	R	H	P	L	E	H	R
I	S	H	A	W	E	D	I	S	T	P	K	I	E	Y
T	N	G	R	E	E	N	N	C	H	A	C	L	E	T
A	E	I	T	R	R	O	S	C	N	S	D	L	D	S
N	R	L	S	U	I	R	I	S	U	D	L	N	E	A
I	D	H	T	P	E	R	R	B	I	O	A	L	B	F
B	L	S	M	Y	D	E	E	M	W	H	I	D	U	U
M	I	A	A	I	B	M	W	H	I	T	E	I	L	N
O	H	L	R	U	T	I	G	H	T	E	N	O	C	I
C	C	F	C	R	O	T	A	T	E	M	O	V	E	S

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Ball, Blue, Championships, Children, Combination, Corner, Cubers, Erno, Fast, Flashlight, Fridrich, Fun, Green, Hand, Help, Hungary, Hype, Icon, Layers, Learn, Lube, Methods, Middle, Moves, Nine, Orange, Parts, Play, Pop, Race, Retro, Rotate, Rows, Side, Six, Snake, Solve, Speed, Springs, Sticker, Tighten, Tiles, Timer, Tower, Toy, Tricks, Turn, Void, White, Yellow

Yesterday's Answer: Investing

To purchase the **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #1**, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: See you around

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$30
• 5-Liner	$24	$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

Find today's solution in classified section

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

1 - ARCHITECTURAL DRAFTSMAN

College degree required with (5) years minimum experience as an architectural draftsman in a construction firm. Must have strong knowledge in analysis of local building codes, create rough plans that show foundations, reinforcement, structures and other elements of design. Must be computer literate with latest computer software including computer-aided drafting (CAD) and have thorough knowledge in preparing as-built and shop drawings.

Interested qualified applicants submit complete application or resume and latest police clearance via e-mail at saipan@aicconstruction.com or mail to AIC Marinas, Inc. PMB 564 PPP Box 10000, Saipan, MP 96950.
Closing date: July 16, 2014

HEALTH PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

(01) Healthcare Clinic System Manager
- A minimum of two to four years of work-related skill, knowledge, or experience.
- Bachelor's Degree or equivalent
- Maintains specialized computer programs relating to health care operations (medical billing, patient records, scheduler)
- Maintain all of company's computer systems to include computer hardware, computer software, and computer network and advance server skills.
- Oversees medical billing department utilizing specialized computer software.
- Oversees administrative areas and designs, develops and maintains a paperless computer system.
- Building maintenance repair, electronic record and prescription with meaningful use in compliance with Medicare and Medicaid standards.
- Performs such other duties as may be assigned.

(02) Clinic/Yard Maintenance
- Preferred skills and experience
- Building construction/renovation experience
- Must be experience in solar maintenance PV models
- Must be flexible with time schedule
- Must have a valid driver's license

(01) Ultrasound/X-Ray Technician
- Must be over five years experience in electronic health and practice partner records.
- Experience/knowledge with practice partner software in electronic health records usage.
- Must be a bachelor of science in Radiologic Technology.
- Licensed by the Medical Profession Licensing Board, CNMI
- At least five years or more experience or related field

(02) Registered Nurse
- Must pass NCLEX with current CNMI RN licensing
- At least two to five years experience
- Must hold a degree of Bachelor of Science in nursing
- English language skills-proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in basic cardiopulmonary resuscitation

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at Saipan Health Clinic located at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application will be on 07/25/2014 at 4:00p.m. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

Sams' Sons, Inc.
Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Operation Manager
4-5yrs experience. Salary: $5.55-$6.00/hr

All interested applicants may send resume to ming@pacifictacticalsupply.com

Venture Transportation Corporation
Job Vacancy Announcement

(1) Fleet Mechanic
- Minimum of 5 years work experience
- 24/7 on call
- Must have a valid driver's license with clean record
- Court Clearance required

If interested, please call: 234-8232/3347

Century Hotel
Invites qualified US workers to apply for the following position:

General Maintenance Worker (1)
Requires: High School Diploma, GED certificate or any combination of education, training, and experience which demonstrates ability to perform room cleaning, carpentry, plumbing, glass replacement, painting, masonry, grounds keeping, appliance repair, and electrical wiring; and use a variety of hand and power tools used in the maintenance and repair of building facilities. Minimum of two to three years experience as an Electrician and one year of apprenticeship experience in manufacturing or either construction; or a combination of experience, training and education in housekeeping and in related field, preferably with knowledge of the hotel industry.

This position is responsible for the upkeep of hotel facilities. The responsibilities include guest room cleaning according to standards and analyzing and correcting electrical problems, repairing and overhauling electrical equipment and controls and promoting efficient consumption of utilities.

Applications can be obtained at the security post located on the south wing of Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than July 11, 2014. Background checks and pre-employment drug testing will be required prior to employment.

Century Hotel is an Equal Opportunity Employer
Qualified Women, Minorities, Veterans and Persons with Disabilities are urged to apply.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY
Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950-1055
Phone: (670) 237-6500 Fax: (670) 234-5962
E-Mail Address: cpa.admin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 07-2010

Opening date: July 07, 2014 **Closing date: July 25, 2014**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position: (1) ARFF Mechanic-III (Saipan)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents is no later than 4:30 p.m., Friday, July 25, 2014.

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For more information, please contact the CPA HR Administrator Ms. Rita Omar, by email at rita.omar@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

CHONG'S CORPORATION
Job Vacancy Announcement

Four (4) TECHNICIANS-AIR CONDITIONING & REFRIGERATION
- Install, service and repair of Central Air-Conditioning, Refrigeration and Ventilation Systems
- Repair and service of Chilled Water Air-conditioning System
- Perform repair and trouble analysis of VAV and VVT Control Systems
- Perform Computer based Control System

Other requirements:
- Minimum 10-year work experience required
- EPA Section 608 & R-410A (Certifications required)
- Maintenance Technician & Electrical Safety Course in accordance with 29CFR 1910 Standard (Certification required)
- Must possess good communication skill

One (1) SHEET METAL WORKER
- Fabricate and install sheet metal & fiberglass products and equipment such as ducts, control boxes, drain pipes & furnace casings
- Set-up and operate fabricating equipment and machines, soldering and welding equipment
- Must be knowledgeable in interpreting plans and specifications
- Minimum 10-year work experience required

One (1) HVAC/R SALES REPRESENTATIVE
- Knowledgeable of HVAC/R Equipment and Parts sale
- Knowledgeable of product selection, listing of order and inventory
- Must be proficient on Computer Software such as Peachtree Accounting System, MS Excel and MS Word

One (1) COMMERCIAL CLEANER
- Perform duties and responsibilities to maintain and clean commercial buildings, offices, warehouses, space rentals and private households in an orderly manner
- Perform basic to heavy cleaning duties
- Must be responsible, reliable & efficient at all times and Police Clearance required

E-mail resume to chongs@pticom.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ST. JUDE RENAL CARE FACILITY INC.

(04) Hemodialysis Technician
- Certificate from a Junior College/Technical School in healthcare
- Attend a hemodialysis training program
- Three year hemodialysis experience preferred
- Must be CCHT certified by the Nephrology Nursing Certification Commission
- English Language skills – proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-Service train with Baxter Phoenix Machine
- Experience with Ameriwater Bicarbonate distribution system
- Flexible with time schedule

(01) Licensed Practical Nurse
- Must pass NCLEX-LPN and current CNMI LPN License
- Attend a hemodialysis training program
- One to four years hemodialysis experience or related field
- English Language skills – proficient in spoken, written and comprehension
- Certification in Basic Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
- In-service train with Baxter Phoenix Machine
- Experience with Ameriwater bicarbonate distribution system
- Flexible with time schedule.

Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility, Inc., in Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit an application will be on Thursday, July 31, 2014 by 4:00pm. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2905 ext. 124.

D&Q Saipan Co., Ltd is inviting qualified U.S. workers to apply for the following positions:

SALES REPRESENTATIVE - HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY

A minimum of 3 years work related experience required with a successful sales record. Ideally with an Associate's Degree in Sales & Marketing plus experience in F&B/restaurant operations and menu preparation. Proficient in MS Excel, Word, Outlook. Ability to speak Mandarin, Cantonese, Japanese or Korean language will be an advantage. Must have a valid driver's license and a clean driving record. Availability to work evenings, holidays and weekends is also required.

Interested applicants must have their own reliable transportation. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

ACCOUNTANT

BA in Accounting and a minimum of 3 years experience is required, including preparation of financial statements, processing accounts receivables & payables and other general accounting procedures. Must possess work-related skills, have knowledge & experience in purchasing, inventory control and bank reconciliation. Proficient in various computer software: MS Excel, Word, Outlook and ACCPAC/Sage or similar accounting system. Salary commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Interested applicants must submit an application and/or resume at our Saipan office located in the C.T.S.I. building, Lower Base, by July 16, 2014. Applications may also be sent to: mpk@dandq-international.com. The successful applicant will be required to provide a police clearance.

D&Q is an equal opportunity employer and has a drug free work environment.
Pre-employment and random drug testing may be required.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT

Realty Management Services

Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **$250**/month.
2-BR, 1-BTH. **$350-$550**/month. Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.

Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill)) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **$600**/month

Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **$550**/month

LNH Apartments
(Lower Navy Hill)
Small 3BR & 2BTH. Unit approximately 600 sq.ft. EPA Solar Water Heater.
$450/month

Hilltop Condominium*
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **$700**/month
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft
$500/month
***Wi-Fi & nighttime security exduded**

FEATURES:
- **Fully Furnished**
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- **24hr water**

Please visit our website at www.saipan-properties.com Call for an appointment 235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

WESTERN SALES TRADING COMPANY has openings for:

One (1) Sales Manager
Minimum qualifications: Two year vocational degree (may be foreign equivalent); two years experience in sales and marketing, and able to read, write and speak Japanese sufficiently to negotiate contacts and communicate with Japanese speaking customers.
Duties: Work with corporate officers in planning, formulating and establishing a business plan ans sales strategy to attain company's sales goals and objectives. Manage and direct activities of sales personnel and ensure that company's sales techniques and price guidelines are being followed. Establish and maintain business relationships with customers and negotiate sales contracts. Resolve any customer concerns or complaints regarding sales and service. Maintain records of all sales activities; monitor customer preferences to determine focus of sales efforts; and analyze pricing points and volume in order to make necessary modifications in sales strategy to improve wholesale sales and keep the company competitive. Plan and direct promotional activities and opportunities for expansion of company's product lines and market areas.

Two (2) Sales and Marketing Representatives
Minimum Qualifications: Associate's degree (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent) and two years experience in job offered, as a sales representative or marketing representative.
Duties: Sells and markets company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Contacts regular and prospective customers to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Displays and/or demonstrates products and suggests products that meet customer's needs. Quote prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepare sales slips or sales contracts. May sign purchase orders, and collect payment from customers. Ensures that customer's orders are properly filled. Arrange for delivery of products to customers. Assist Sales Manager in identifying prospective customers, monitoring market conditions and monitoring competitor's products and prices.

Two (2) Sales Representatives
Minimum Qualifications: Associate degree (may be foreign and/or educational equivalent).
Duties: Sells company's merchandise to retail stores and outlets. Meets with customers in order to explain and promote the quality and competitive costing of the company's products. Quote prices and credit terms for purchase of company's products. Prepare sales slips or sales contracts and may collect payment from customers. Ensure that customers' orders are properly filled. Arrange for delivery of products to customers.

One (1) Computer Programmer
Minimum Qualifications: Associates degree in computer programming or two-year course in computer programming (may be foreign educational equivalent)and two years experience as a computer programmer.
Duties: Design, update, integrate, and operate computer programs and software packages for sales, accounting, inventory marketing and other management information. Maintain, set-up and operate computer system. Correct errors by making appropriate changes and rechecking the program to ensure that the desired results are produced. Perform system analysis and programming tasks to ensure efficient use of computer programs and systems. Consult with management regarding problems and suggested changes to computer programs.

One (1) Graphic Artist
Minimum qualifications: Four years experience as a graphic artist for wholesale company with a minimum of 550 sales items.
Duties: Design and creates visual products to meet company's promotional needs, including designing and creating promotional displays and marketing brochures, signs and signage systems,packaging, menus, and other visual products. Formulate visual marketing campaign and overall design concepts for company to reach target markets. Applies critical thinking and problem solving analysis to various deign comcepts and approaches that can be utilized to attain the desired effect on the target market. Create innovative design solutions utilizing knowledge of graphic design theory and methodologies in conjunction with current cultural trends, market demographics, cultural preference, and seasonal shifts to achieve optimum market response. Produce and coordinate the execution of mock-up and final graphic design and artwork for the visual products.

One (1) Building Maintenance Repair
Minimum qualifications: Two years experience as building maintenance repairer
Duties: Repairs and maintains the building structures and equipment of the company's commercial and industrial premises, including such duties as pipe fitting, insulating, welding, machining, carpentry; repairing electrical or mechanical equipment; installing, aligning, and balancing new equipment; and repairing buildings. Performs routine preventive maintenance to ensure that machines continue to run smoothly, building systems operate efficiently, or the physical condition of buildings does not deteriorate. Inspects, operates, or tests machinery or equipment to diagnose machine malfunctions. Assemble, install, or repair wiring, electrical or electronic components, pipe systems, plumbing, machinery, or equipment. Repair or replaces detective equipment parts, using hand tools and power tools, and reassembles equipment. Records type and cost of maintenance or repair work.

One (1) Building Custodian
Minimum qualifications: Three months experience as building custodian or maintenance worker.
Duties: Keep buildings and business premises in clean and orderly condition. Performs cleaning duties, such as cleaning floors, washing walls and glass, and removing rubbish from inside and outside of business premises. Performs routine maintenance activities and notifies management of need of repairs. Requisition supplies or equipment needed for cleaning and maintaining duties.

If interested, send resume to Western Sales Trading Company by email to wstcospn@pticom.com or by fax at 670-322-9408. Proof of qualifications and police clearance required within three days or hire.

JVA for YANO ENTERPRISES, INC.
dba: Kinpachi Restaurant

Assistant Manager (1): Be able to assist the general manager in the supervision of business establishment to ensure the restaurant & stores efficiency & profitable operations; work closely with the personnel in preparation & processing of reservations, greets & answers customers inquiry, patrons complaints & resolve problems. Prepare advertising campaigns of the restaurant & stores to attract customers. Assist in doing daily inventory of foods, merchandise and assets of the business. Duties include but are not limited to delegating authority & assigning responsibilities, reviewing financial transactions & monitoring budget limitations, & be able to present written & oral reports on the company's financial & operational status. Must have Japanese oral skills & knowledge of Japanese food products.

Restaurant Supervisor (1): Must be qualified in restaurant operations, customer service, menu planning, & reservation operations. Must be responsible for the supervision of staff as to dining areas cleanliness in appearance & outside grounds. Ensure any customers issues are addressed immediately and resolved in a manner which exceeds the customer's expectation. Also need to have basic Japanese oral skills. Must have an extensive knowledge of Japanese food products & be able to make orders & preparations.

Accountant (2): Must be efficient in handling financial records, statements, & reports. Have knowledge on all Taxes computation & filing. Must be able to budget & estimate purchasing costs & requisitions of merchandise necessary in the company.

Restaurant Waitress (7): Greeting Customers. Must be able to speak basic Japanese & efficient English & have a friendly & outgoing personality. Should be knowledgeable of the restaurant dishes, familiar with the entire menu the establishment offers. Can introduce & recommend daily specials as well as the restaurant's regular menu items. Continued services after the meal have been served and accept payments & other duties related.

Cook (5): Must be experienced & skilled in preparing Japanese cuisine including but not limited to sushi, sashimi, & tempura. Can prepare all menu items according to quantity menus, must know cutting and preparation techniques for each type of fish used in sushi rolls as well as how to prepare rice, sauces and seasonal ingredients, must ensure that ingredients are fresh, colorful and always in stock, that the all-important knives are sharp and clean, and that all equipment is in working order. Must be able to maintain kitchen & observe safety & sanitary food handling practices as well as other related duties.

General Maintenance (3): Must have a valid CNMI driver's license and flexible in work hours. Duties may involve skills in electrical, plumbing, carpentry, masonry, painting, landscape or maintain grounds of property using hand or power tools or equipment. Can typically perform variety of task such as sod laying, mowing, trimming, planting, watering, fertilizing, digging, raking and installing , repairing buildings, floors or stairs.

Additional Requirements: All applicants must be of good health and have a good moral character, must be able to follow grooming standards, must be able to obtain required food handler health certificate, must be able to provide current police clearance, with reliable transportation and must agree to drug test. Can work in flexible hours including weekends and night time.

Applicants of positions listed above are required to have a minimum of 3-5 year experience.

Applications can be picked up at Kinpachi Restaurant in Coral Tree Avenue, Garapan. To be considered, applications must be submitted not later than July 17, 2014. Please no phone calls.

We are an equal opportunity employer. Qualified applicants will be considered.

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LeBron holds meetings in Vegas, leaves no hints on 'decision'

AP

In this April 23, 2014 file photo, Miami Heat's LeBron James (6) high-fives Chris Bosh (1) after the Heat defeated the Charlotte Bobcats, 101-97, in Game 2 of an opening-round NBA basketball playoff series in Miami. At left is Dwyane Wade.

LAS VEGAS (AP)—LeBron James worked out and had a meeting agenda Tuesday.

In another summer of NBA Free Agent Frenziness, if James knows where he will be playing next season, he still isn't saying.

Asked by The Associated Press how free agency was going when his afternoon meeting agenda was apparently complete, the four-time MVP said "no complaints." He offered a quick greeting, and provided no hints of anything—including when his next "Decision" will be known—before leaving with a wave.

The entire exchange lasted about eight seconds. James, who has been relatively quiet while weighing his options, never broke stride.

He was upstairs in an exclusive part of a Las Vegas hotel Tuesday, holding court for a little more than three hours before emerging in the lobby, walking toward his assembled brain trust—including longtime manager Maverick Carter and Nike representatives, a sponsor of the LeBron James Skills Academy he'll be hosting in Las Vegas starting Wednesday—and got whisked away.

James is expected to meet with Miami Heat President Pat Riley before making a final decision on his NBA future, and a person close to the situation said that meeting had not happened as of Tuesday afternoon. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because no one has publicly announced the date of the meeting.

Some of James' representatives have met with several teams, including the Cleveland Cavaliers.

After filming a TV commercial in Coral Gables, Florida on Monday, James flew to Las Vegas, which was planned because of his academy. Later this week, he's expected to travel to Brazil to the World Cup final.

He took time to Tuesday morning to work out with Dwyane Wade in Las Vegas before his meetings, another person close to the situation told the AP. Like James, Wade has also not announced his plans for next season and beyond, though it is still largely expected that the 2006 NBA Finals MVP and three-time champion will remain in Miami.

James' future remains anyone's guess.

And it appears the buildup to his second foray into free-agent craziness will last longer than the one that culminated in him going to Miami in 2010. He made that announcement on July 8, 2010—exactly four years ago Tuesday.

Unlike 2010, James has kept a much lower profile during his courtship. While he was on a family vacation, his agent, Rich Paul, met in Cleveland with the Cavs as well as the Houston Rockets, Dallas Mavericks, Los Angeles Lakers and Phoenix Suns, all of whom pitched plans as to why the 29-year-old superstar should sign with them.

James wanted to contain the madness that surrounded his first foray into free agency four years ago, but the growth of social media has turned the past week into an endless storm of rumors, speculation and baseless media reports.

While James may be nearing an announcement, that won't come until he's met with Riley. And the Heat have been making moves as well, announcing Monday that they intend to sign forwards Danny Granger and Josh McRoberts, two free agents to bolster their roster.

Tour de France champion Chris Froome hurts wrist

LILLE, France (AP)—Back on the race's home turf after three days in England, the Tour de France faces a first possible shakeout Wednesday over the bone-rattling cobblestones in northern France.

Many riders dreaded the forecast for rain, meaning the stones will be slick.

Defending champion Chris Froome scuffed his left knee and elbow and injured his wrist Tuesday during Stage 4, a crash that couldn't have come at a worse time for him.

"Took quite a tumble today but I'll definitely be starting tomorrow with no serious damage," Froome said on Twitter: "It'll be a tough one for everyone on the cobbles!"

Astana team leader Vincenzo Nibali of Italy kept the yellow jersey in what he called a "crazy race"—a 163.5-kilometer (101-mile) ride along the Belgian border. Froome and two-time champ Alberto Contador are among 20 riders trailing Nibali by two seconds.

Kittel makes it three

Marcel Kittel got his third stage victory in this Tour and the seventh of his Tour career on Tuesday. Unlike his wins in Stages 1 and 3, when he made victory look easy, Kittel won by a half-wheel length at the end of the ride from Le Touquet-Paris Plage to Lille Metropole.

Kittel, of the Giant-Shimano team, didn't celebrate this time, but panted. The gesture at the line came from runner-up Alexander Kristoff of Norway, who swatted the air in frustration after being beaten by the barreling German. French rider Arnaud Demare was third.

After a difficult day of crosswinds, pockets of rain-smattered roads, and jumpy nerves in the peloton, Kittel said: "It's never easy ... (I was) lucky just enough at the finish line."

Champ crashes

Minutes into the stage, Team Sky leader Froome went tumbling after one rider bumped another—like a succession of dominoes—who crossed the Briton's front wheel. He skinned his left knee, left elbow and hurt his left wrist, but got back on his bike. Clinging to the race doctor's car, he got bandaged and rejoined the pack. Then a teammate dropped back to get a splint at Sky's car, and pedaled it up to the ailing Froome.

Race doctor Florence Pommerie told French TV his injuries amounted to "essentially a few scratches."

Nibali, said his team informed him through his earpiece about Froome's mishap, and went back to see whether he was OK. Froome responded, "more or less," according to the Italian. The Sky leader went straight into the team bus and didn't speak to reporters after the stage.

Dave Brailsford, the Sky team boss, said Froome described feeling good at the end. Froome was undergoing X-rays after the stage, but the team didn't immediately comment on the results.

In the sixth stage of the Criterium du Dauphine race last month, Froome took a spill during a descent and banged up a hip, shoulder and elbow. The next day, he lost the race's yellow jersey to Contador - citing stiffness in his thighs and a loss of energy from the crash.

An aching wrist could mean pain ahead for Froome. The cobbles on Wednesday's 155.5-kilometers (97-miles) from Ypres, Belgium, to Arenberg Port du Hainaut, could make it difficult for him to keep his hands on the handlebars. It includes stretches of bumpy road familiar to riders of the famed Paris-Roubaix one-day classic.

"It's going to be a crazy stage for everyone tomorrow," said Philippe Mauduit, a sports director for Contador's Tinkoff-Saxo Bank team. "We'll do whatever we can to stay near the front to avoid getting involved in crashes or held up by any pileups but that's what everybody wants and therefore the pace will be extremely high."

Sterling testifies in Los Angeles Clippers trial

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Donald Sterling, challenging the sale of his Los Angeles Clippers, gave testy, bombastic testimony Tuesday, contending he's mentally sound, sparring with his wife's lawyer and repeatedly drawing laughter from spectators.

"Tell me what you want to accuse me of. ... Stand up and be a man," he told attorney Bert Fields during a 90-minute afternoon appearance.

The 80-year-old billionaire also called doctors who've declared he has Alzheimer's disease "hired guns," pleaded a faulty memory about some of his most controversial remarks and declared he could top the $2 billion offer for the Clippers by $10 billion by selling TV rights to Fox and winning an antitrust suit he's filed against the NBA.

"What do you think, I'm doing this for ego?" he asked Fields.

"Yes," the attorney replied.

"Well, you're wrong, like you're wrong with all your questions," Sterling said.

He also repeatedly told the soft-voiced Fields that he couldn't hear him, but at one point also said he was a good lawyer.

As Sterling made continued outbursts, Superior Court Judge Michael Levanas tried futilely to take control of the situation, at one point telling him: "Go back to answering questions rather than making somewhat entertaining comments."

After court, Fields said those who watched Sterling could easily draw their own conclusions on his competence.

"Is this a guy you'd employ to sell hamburgers?" Fields said.

The NBA has moved to oust Sterling from team ownership because of racist remarks he made to a girlfriend.

His lawyers are challenging the authority of Shelly Sterling under a family trust to unilaterally cut a deal for the team with former Microsoft CEO Steve Ballmer.

In order to be able to make the deal herself, Shelly Sterling had two doctors examine her husband and they declared him mentally incapacitated and unable to act as an administrator of The Sterling Family Trust, which owns the Clippers.

Sterling angrily denied that on the witness stand.

"When I went to the Cleveland Clinic, they told me I was razor-sharp. I have five corporations and I run them every day," he said.

Sterling acknowledged that he had offered to allow his wife to negotiate the sale at one point, but that was when he believed she would retain an interest in the team.

"I wanted to keep the team. I didn't want to sell it," he said.

Despite his challenge, Sterling repeatedly defended his wife and during a break before giving testimony, he pulled her down to his chair for a kiss. She wiped away a tear.

"I trust her today," Sterling said on the stand. "The reason we're here is because she's afraid of this big NBA that's trying to take everything away."

At times, he sniffled and appeared to wipe away a tear.

A neurologist hired by his wife testified Monday that she believed he has Alzheimer's disease and a psychiatrist also hired by Shelly Sterling testified Tuesday that he drew the same conclusion after examining Sterling in May.

Dr. James Sparr said Sterling was friendly, relaxed and cooperative until a final question challenged his abilities.

A frustrated Sterling then said, "'I have to go,' and walked out of the room," Sparr said.

Sparr's report concluded that Sterling showed early signs of the debilitating mental condition and concluded that "he is substantially unable to manage his finances and resist fraud and malfeasance and is no longer competent to act as a trustee of his trust."

NBA owners are scheduled to vote on the Ballmer deal on July 15. It's also the day that Ballmer's offer is set to expire—and there is no deal without the judge's approval of the sale.

If the sale isn't completed by Sept. 15, the league said it could seize the team and put it up for auction.

Verlander powers Tigers to victory over Dodgers

DETROIT (AP) — Justin Verlander settled down after a terrible first inning and the Detroit Tigers rallied in emphatic fashion for a 14-5 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers on Tuesday night.

Verlander (8-7) allowed five runs in the first, but the Dodgers managed only one more hit off the Detroit right-hander, who has had his share of struggles this season. The Tigers tied it with five runs in the second, then added two in the third and four in the fourth to pull away.

Miguel Cabrera was one of five Detroit players with three hits.

Verlander allowed five runs and five hits in six innings. He struck out four and walked two.

Hyun-Jin Ryu (9-5) allowed seven runs and 10 hits in 2 1-3 innings.

Juan Uribe hit a two-run homer for the Dodgers in the first, but Verlander retired 13 in a row after that.

The Tigers' 14 runs set a season high, as did their 20 hits.

AP

In this undated file photo, Justin Verlander takes time before pitching for the Detroit Tigers, who earned a 14-5 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers on Tuesday night.

Indians 5, Yankees 3

In Cleveland, Michael Brantley homered and had three RBIs, Nick Swisher hit a go-ahead two-run shot and Cleveland stopped rookie sensation Masahiro Tanaka's bid to become the major league's first 13-game winner.

Brantley hit a leadoff homer in the seventh. The first-time All-Star also had RBI doubles in the first and fifth, raising his average to .328.

Tanaka (12-4) allowed season worsts of five runs and 10 hits in 6 2-3 innings. The right-hander, who lost for the third time in four starts, took a 3-2 lead into the sixth before Swisher, a former Yankee, hit a two-run homer that put Cleveland on top.

Trevor Bauer (3-4) allowed three runs in seven innings and retired 13 of the last 14 hitters he faced. New York's only baserunner in that stretch came on Swisher's fifth-inning error. Bauer struck out six and walked two in winning for the first time since June 16.

Cody Allen pitched the ninth for his 10th save.

White Sox 8, Red Sox 3

In Boston, Conor Gillaspie hit a tie-breaking, two-run homer in the sixth inning for his third hit of the game and Chicago beat struggling Boston.

Boston lost for the seventh time in eight games as the defending World Series champions remained in last place in the AL East.

The White Sox are 5-1 in their past six games. John Danks (8-6) started with four shutout innings on Tuesday night after Hector Noesi beat Seattle 1-0 on Sunday and Scott Carroll won 4-0 on Monday night when Boston had just two hits.

The White Sox squandered a 3-0 lead when the Red Sox tied it with three runs in the fifth. But Chicago went ahead to stay with two in the sixth and then added three runs in the ninth.

Jose Abreu led off the sixth with a single against Brandon Workman (1-3) and stayed at first when the next two batters were retired. Then Gillaspie hit a 3-and-2 pitch just inside the pole in right field for his second homer of the season.

Rays 4, Royals 3

In St. Petersburgh, Evan Longoria drove in two runs, Jeremy Hellickson went 4 1-3 innings in his season debut, and Tampa Bay beat Kansas City.

The Rays opened the sixth with three consecutive hits, including a two-run single by Longoria off Jason Vargas (8-4), to take a 2-1 lead. Vargas, who allowed two runs and six hits in 5 2-3 innings, was coming off seven innings in the Royals' 4-0 win Wednesday against Minnesota.

Hellickson, coming back after arthroscopic surgery on his right elbow in January, gave up one run and six hits.

Mets 8, Braves 3

In New York, Rookie Jacob deGrom struck out 11 in seven shutout innings and also delivered a table-setting hit from the No. 8 spot in the batting order and New York tagged All-Star Julio Teheran and Atlanta.

Curtis Granderson kept up his resurgence with a leadoff home run and Lucas Duda doubled twice, singled and drew two walks. Daniel Murphy also doubled twice and third baseman David Wright added two of New York's 18 hits and made a nifty catch.

The shaggy-haired deGrom (2-5) pitched the Mets to their third win in a row, and the franchise's 4,000th victory since starting out as an expansion team in 1962. Atlanta has lost three straight.

DeGrom allowed seven hits, walked none and matched a career best for strikeouts.

Blue Jays 4, Angeles 0

In Anaheim, R.A. Dickey scattered four hits over seven innings for his first victory in over a month, Jose Reyes homered and drove in three runs Tuesday night and the Toronto Blue Jays ended a season-worst five-game skid with a 4-0 win over the Los Angeles Angels.

The Blue Jays also snapped a seven-game road losing streak and ended the Angels' 11-game home winning streak, which fell one shy of the franchise record set in 1967.

Dickey (7-8) struck out five and walked one after losing his previous four starts. The 2012 NL Cy young Award winner got back in the win column for the first time since beating the Tigers on June 4.

Astros 8, Rangers 3

In Arlington, Another long night for the Texas Rangers and their bullpen. And another loss closer to last place in the AL West.

Phil Irwin gave up two quick runs in his Texas debut, and got through only one batter in the fifth inning as the Rangers lost 8-3 to Houston Astros on Tuesday night. Texas has lost nine of its last 10 games and 17 of 20.

"I think if we get the starting pitching to get us later in games, the bullpen will be more effective," manager Ron Washington said. "If we straighten that out ... get deeper in games, less work for the bullpen, everything else will work out.

Athletics 6, Giants 1

In Oakland, Sonny Gray struck out eight to win his third straight decision, and the Oakland Athletics beat the San Francisco Giants 6-1 on Tuesday night for their sixth consecutive victory.

Coco Crisp hit an RBI single and stole his 16th base and Nick Punto doubled in a run during a four-run third against Madison Bumgarner (9-7), handed his second three-start skid of the year.

The lefty didn't allow a hit until Jed Lowrie's blooper leading off the third that landed in front of a charging right fielder Hunter Pence, who avoided a collision with second baseman Joe Panik.

Reds 4, Cubs 2, Game 1

In Cincinnati, Jay Bruce returned to right field and hit another two-run homer, and Johnny Cueto extended his winning streak against Chicago, leading Cincinnati to a victory in the opener of a doubleheader.

The Reds put first baseman Joey Votto back on the disabled list before the game, hoping a strained muscle above his left knee will heal enough to let him play this season. They're using different players including Bruce at the position for now.

Bruce played first base for the first time since high school and hit a two-run homer in his final at-bat during a 9-3 win on Monday night in the opener of the five-game series. He was back in the outfield and homered again in the first inning off left-hander Travis Wood (7-7).

Reds 6, Cubs 5 Game 2

The Cubs blew a five-run lead in the nightcap, with their bullpen allowing the Reds to pull off their biggest comeback of the season.

"This one's tough on us all," said Anthony Rizzo, whose homer helped build the early lead. "It's not easy to swallow."

The Cubs are having a tough time with doubleheaders, getting swept in all three this season - by the Yankees, Nationals and Reds. They're also having a tough time getting beyond their big trade.

Chicago has lost all five games since dealing starters Jeff Samardzija and Jason Hammel to Oakland for a package of prospects.

"Believe you me, I think the furthest thing from their mind when they're playing right now is the trade, if I can be frank," manager Rick Renteria said. "That's done. It's over."

Now, the Cubs start to feel the full effect. They have pitchers making their big league debuts in two of the three games, trying to fill in for the traded starters.

Mariners 2, Twins 0

In Seattle, Minnesota's Phil Hughes pitched into the eighth inning, Sam Fuld barely clared the wall with his second home run of the season and the Twins beat the Seattle Mariners 2-0 on Tuesday night.

Hughes rebounded from being knocked around in his previous two starts to shut down the Mariners. Hughes (9-5) gave up eight hits in 7 1-3 innings, struck out eight and didn't walk a batter in silencing Seattle's stagnant offense.

A night after Fuld could not pull back Michael Saunders' home run, the roles were reversed. Fuld hit a 3-2 pitch from Seattle starter Chris Young (8-5) beyond the wall in right and just out of the reach of Saunders for the solo shot in the fifth inning. It was the first homer for Fuld since April 10. He finished with three hits and two stolen bases.

Glen Perkins pitched the ninth for his 21st save.

Marlins 2, Diamondbacks 1

In Phoenix, Marcell Ozuna hit a two-out, two-run home run off Addison Reed in the ninth inning to spoil a brilliant Arizona debut by Vidal Nuno and give the Miami Marlins a 2-1 victory over the Diamondbacks on Tuesday night.

Ozuna hit Reed's 2-2 pitch off the batter's eye far above the 407-foot sign in straightaway center. It was the fifth blown save in 25 tries for Reed (1-5) and the ninth home run the closer has allowed in 38 appearances.

Nuno, acquired in the deal that sent Brandon McCarthy to the New York Yankees, gave up three hits, struck out a career-high seven and walked one in seven innings. He scored Arizona's only run.

Mike Dunn (7-4) pitched one-third of an inning to get the victory. Steve Cishek pitched a perfect ninth for his 20th save in 22 opportunities.

Rockies 2, Padres 1

In Denver, Charlie Blackmon hit a two-run homer and Franklin Morales pitched effectively into the sixth inning, helping the Colorado Rockies beat the San Diego Padres 2-1 Tuesday night.

Morales (5-4) turned in another solid outing since being reinserted into the starting rotation on July 3. The lefty surrendered four hits and one run before being removed for a reliever with two outs in the sixth.

Tyson Ross (7-9) was just as sharp, his only mistake a slider up in the zone to Blackmon in the third. Ross went six innings and allowed six hits.

Ross made the All-Star team, but won't pitch since he's scheduled to start Sunday against the Los Angeles Dodgers. He will attend the festivities.

Business elite tickets at stake in TOC

Two business elite tickets from Delta Air Lines are at stake in the 19th Tournament of Champions that will be held on Aug. 2 and 3 at the Laolao Bay Golf Resort.

The two airlines tickets that can be used anywhere in the U.S. are hole-in-one prizes. More hole-in-one prizes will be announced as the tournament nears.

The "chip for cash" side event will also be held before golfers tee off on both days of the competition. TOC will be handing out cash prizes for hole-in-one shots on 19 holes. There will be nine holes worth $50 each, $100 for six holes, $500 for three, and $1,000 for one. Golfers must buy a $1 ticket to participate in the "chip for cash" contest.

Registration is on-going and interested individuals can choose from seven flights: Championship, A, B,C, Senior, Super Senior, and Ladies (low gross and low net) flights. The Top 3 finishers in each flight (except Ladies low net) will receive cash prizes with $500 given to the champions, $400 to the runner-ups, and $300 to the third finishers. The fourth and fifth finishers will bring home digital cameras and gift certificates, respectively.

Entrance fee is $185 for both days. For more information, contact Arthur Miron at 236-2533. ***(PR)***

Scolari apologizes for Brazil's World Cup failure

Brazil's coach Luiz Felipe Scolari leaves the pitch after the World Cup semifinal soccer match between Brazil and Germany at the Mineirao Stadium in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, Tuesday, July 8, 2014. Germany won, 7-1.

BELO HORIZONTE, Brazil (AP)—Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari apologized to fans for failing to lead the host to the World Cup final, saying the ''catastrophic" defeat to Germany on Tuesday marked the ''worst day" of his professional life.

"I have to apologize for the negative result, for not being able to reach the final as we all wanted," Scolari said, speaking calmly after the humiliating 7-1 loss.

Scolari took full responsibility for the drubbing, and said he knows that it's very likely that his career may be defined by what happened at the Mineirao Stadium - even though he also led Brazil to the 2002 World Cup title.

''Naturally, if I think about my life as a player and as a coach, I think this was the worst day of my life," Scolari said. ''I know I'll probably be remembered for losing 7-1 to Germany, for Brazil's worst loss. But it was a risk I knew I was taking. I have to take responsibility for it. Life must go on for everybody."

The coach said he has to find a way to learn from the ''catastrophic loss" in front of the home crowd. He said there are ''no excuses" for what happened, not even the absence of star striker Neymar, who was ruled out of the tournament because of a fractured vertebra sustained late in the match against Colombia in the quarterfinals.

''They (Germany) probably would have done it with Neymar playing," Scolari said. ''I don't think there's any reason for us to suppose that with Neymar it would have been different."

He said the ''very high quality" of Germany was the reason for Brazil's disappointing elimination at the home tournament.

''They took advantage of their chances, they are very good," he said.

Scolari was vivid on the sideline as Brazil pressured Germany in the first few minutes. After Brazil conceded the third goal, he kept asking players to be calm, but as the Germans scored for the fifth time, the coach sat down on the bench and only sparingly came back to the sideline.

''It was one after the other, I think everyone blanked out," Scolari said. ''There was nothing we could do. We panicked."

Scolari declined to discuss his future, and the president of the Brazilian football confederation has always said that Scolari would remain as head of the national team no matter what. However, the coach is unlikely to remain with Brazil after Saturday's third-place match in Brasilia. He had said in the past that he would like to retire after coaching in the World Cup, but recently said it's still possible he would extend his career outside of Brazil.

''I don't think I have any debts to pay," he said about his time with Brazil. ''I did my job, as always."

Tuesday's result marked only the third loss for Scolari since he returned to the national team in late 2012. The others came in friendlies against England and Switzerland. He had led the team to the title of last year's Confederations Cup, the World Cup warm-up tournament.

CNMI

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We hope this will somehow help each team's fundraising efforts and we wish you do well in Pohnpei," Tan said.

Inos also wishes a strong showing for the CNMI Team and encourages the delegation to start performing in Pohnpei in preparation for future tournaments that the Commonwealth will be hosting.

"Do your best in representing the CNMI in Pohnpei. Right now, CNMI sports is beginning to get some traction with us winning the hosting bid for the 2021 Pacific Mini Games, NMSA getting things done at the Oleai Sports Complex, and various teams competing off island. We're making headways and I hope these will continue in Pohnpei and you will bring home medals," Inos said.

For his part, White thanked both Inos, the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation, and the foundation for making it possible for CNMI to compete in eight events in the Micronesian Games—athletics, baseball, men's and women's basketball, swimming, weightlifting, spearfishing, and canoe racing.

"Thank you to our lawmakers for passing a bill that appropriated $30,000 to us and helped us secure our airline seats and thank you to the governor for signing the bill into law. Then now, we have the TSL Foundation, extending help again to NMSA and the federations under it. Thank you for your generous donation and for doing a lot of good things for CNMI sports. Our athletes will definitely do their best in Pohnpei. We're going to win medals left and right," White said.

The CNMI finished second behind Palau in the medal standings in the 2010 Micro Games after earning 44 gold medals, 23 silver, and 25 bronze. The 44 gold medals were the most the Commonwealth won far in the Games since its inception in 1968.

Meanwhile, Reps. Tony Sablan, Edmund Villagomez, and Richard Seman and all the eighth CNMI teams were present at the donation turnover and send-off ceremonies and the delegates expressed their appreciation to the foundation and its financial assistance.

"Wow. We never saw this coming and what a fortunate time to have this donation. We will be leaving in a few weeks and we're still lacking funds. This is a very huge help to the team, especially to a big squad like baseball because we have more than 20 players and officials," Saipan Baseball League president and NMSA secretary general Rose Igitol said. "We would like to thank the foundation and Jerry Tan for their continued commitment to CNMI sports."

Ezra Caro and Dylan Ackerman, who are members of the CNMI basketball and athletics teams, respectively, said the donation eased the burden they been carrying for the past several months.

"Besides practicing, we've been going around, selling hot lunches and raffle tickets to help raise funds for the games in Pohnpei so this $100 helps a lot," Caro said.

"Now we don't have to worry a lot because we have added funds," Ackerman said.

Teams have yet to decide where to use the donation, but if it will be for the per diem, each delegate can pay about half of the total cost, depending on the number of days they will be staying in Pohnpei. The local organizing committee is charging $30 per diem for each delegate.

The 8th Micronesian Games will be held from July 20 to 29.

ATHLETES

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to the team, but I still think the tandem of Rachel Abrams and Lia Rangamar will still garner us enough medals to stay in contention with the other island nations," Elias said.

In the 7th Micronesian Games in Palau for years ago, the CNMI collected 13 gold medals, 5 silvers, and 7 bronzes in athletics.

"On the men's side, Beo and Jesse James will anchor the men's squad against the favorites Palau, Chuuk, and Pohnpei. If we can hold our own in the men events, we should be able to finish in the Top 3," the head coach added.

James has been dominating distance events on Saipan this year, while Ngirchongor just came from the 2014 Oceania Area Championships held in Rarotonga, Cook Islands last month and raced against the best in the region. In Pohnpei, he will also run in middle distance races and compete in hurdles. Brandon Phillip, who was also in the Oceania tournament, will represent the CNMI in the sprints and jump events in in this year's Micro Games.

Mancao, Eda, and Ackerman are the Commonwealth's other choices for the middle distances events. Eda and Ackerman stood out in the 2014 McDonald's/PSS All Schools Championships and are perennial participants in local races for the past two years. Lampkin also had an outstanding showing in the All Schools and was even named the top athlete in the boys U18 division. He will be competing in jumping events and hurdles in Pohnpei.

GERMANY

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lone goal, cried near midfield.

"The players knew from the beginning that by playing at home our obligation was to reach the final and win the final," Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari said.

Home-field advantage wasn't enough for Brazil again, but not having its top two players available for the semifinal played a major part in the defeat at the Mineirao Stadium. Without suspended captain Thiago Silva and injured star striker Neymar, the Brazilian team appeared rudderless.

Brazil pressured in the beginning, but the attack never had a chance to keep the hosts in the match. Central forward Fred, one of the most loudly jeered players when he was substituted in the second half, ended the tournament with one goal. No other Brazilian striker - other than Neymar - scored at the tournament. Of the team's 11 goals, four came from Neymar and 10 from defenders and midfielders.

Neymar was ruled out of the World Cup after fracturing a vertebra late in the 2-1 win against Colombia in the quarterfinals on Friday.

Seven years after winning the bid to host the tournament, the five-time champions already know that they can finish no higher than third place. The playoff - some argue the cruelest of the World Cup matches - is Saturday against the loser of the Netherlands- Argentina semifinal.

It was one of Brazil's heaviest losses in terms of goals conceded. It had lost 8-4 to Yugoslavia in a friendly in 1934. Tuesday's result equaled the margin of its previous worst defeat - the 6-0 loss to Uruguay in 1920.

Germany scored the most goals and the biggest margin of victory ever in a World Cup semifinal.

Brazil's defense falls apart sans Silva

Forget Neymar for a second and consider just how badly Brazil missed Thiago Silva in defense.

The host nation's backline was relentlessly picked apart. Germany's potent attack certainly played a role in the debacle, but so did the suspension of Silva, Brazil's captain.

"Truthfully," Brazil goalkeeper Julio Cesar said, "it's very hard to explain the unexplainable."

The Germans first broke through in the 11th minute, with Thomas Mueller scoring. That was followed by a goal from Miroslav Klose in the 23rd, then two from Toni Kroos in the 24th and 26th, and one from Sami Khedira in the 29th.

Four goals in seven minutes, making the score 5-0 after only a half hour of play.

"What happened is that Germany at a given moment imposed a fantastic rhythm and was able to score the goals that defined the match," Scolari said. "The German team was fantastic."

The Germans were, quite clearly, the better team at the Mineirao Stadium, but Brazil's defense was bad.

Seven goals worth of bad.

In the place of Silva, Dante made his first start of the tournament alongside David Luiz in the center of defense. Marcelo and Maicon played on the flanks.

But an attacking start opened up huge gaps at the back, and it wasn't long before the first goal came from an unmarked Mueller following a corner kick.

The other goals soon poured in, one from a spill by Cesar, another after a cross from Philipp Lahm made its way through the area to a waiting Kroos.

"We realized that they were cracking up and took advantage of it," Germany coach Joachim Loew said. "The host was unable to deal with the pressure."

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	49	40	.551	—
Toronto	48	44	.522	2½
New York	45	44	.506	4
Tampa Bay	42	51	.452	9
Boston	39	51	.433	10½

Central Division

Detroit	49	37	.570	—
Kansas City	46	43	.517	4½
Cleveland	44	45	.494	6½
Chicago	44	47	.484	7½
Minnesota	40	49	.449	10½

West Division

Oakland	57	33	.633	—
Los Angeles	52	37	.584	4½
Seattle	49	41	.544	8
Texas	38	52	.422	19
Houston	38	54	.413	20

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Washington	48	40	.545	—
Atlanta	49	41	.544	—
Miami	44	46	.489	5
New York	41	49	.456	8
Philadelphia	39	51	.433	10

Central Division

Milwaukee	52	39	.571	—
St. Louis	49	42	.538	3
Cincinnati	48	42	.533	3½
Pittsburgh	47	43	.522	4½
Chicago	38	51	.427	13

West Division

Los Angeles	51	41	.554	—
San Francisco	49	41	.544	1
San Diego	40	50	.444	10
Colorado	38	53	.418	12½
Arizona	38	54	.413	13

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2014 Tan Holdings Inter-Company Basketball League

CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Tan Holdings senior vice president Eli Arago does the ceremonial toss between Shirley's Coffee Shop and CTSI/D&Q players.

Players of Shirley's Coffee Shop and their muse Noelle Lingcaso pose for a group photo during the opening ceremony of the 2014 Tan Holdings Inter-Company Basketball League last month at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

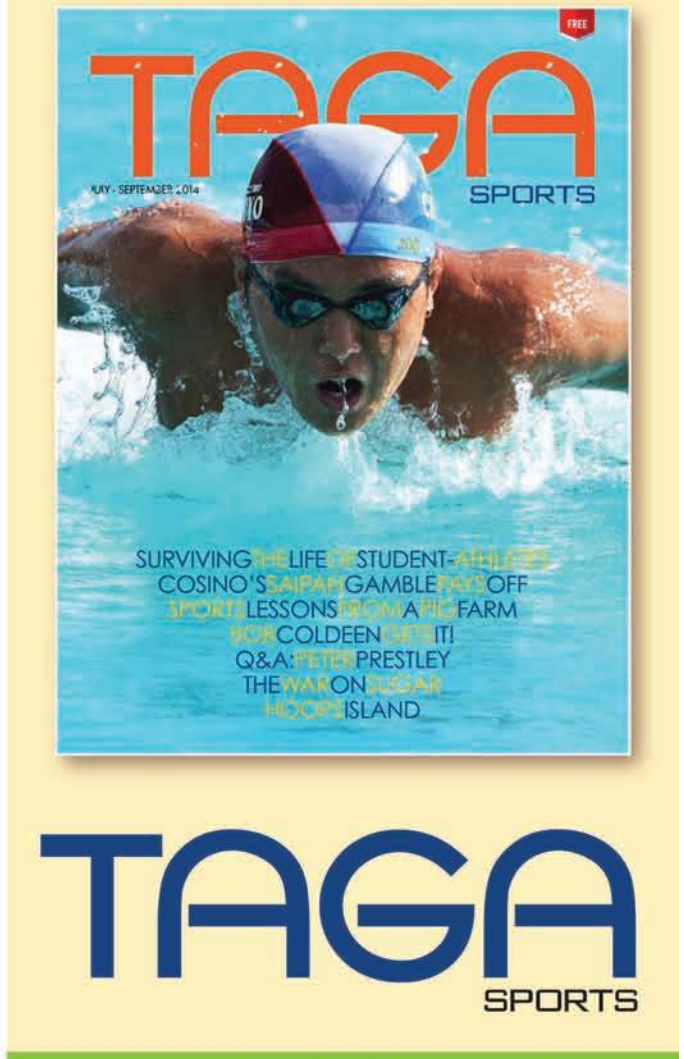
Kanoa Resort players and their muse pose for the camera.

POI players and their muses gather for a group photo.

CTSI/D&Q players and their muses pose for a photo.

Saipan Tribune/Realty Management Services players and their muse Melody Johnson pose for a group photo.

Referees and table officials pose with the winning muse Noelle Lingcaso of Shirley's Coffee Shop.



TAGA SPORTS

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

CNMI Team gets help in send-off ceremony

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

CNMI athletes and officials, Gov. Eloy Inos, and three lawmakers pose for a photo during a send-off ceremony for the CNMI Team that will be competing in the 8th Micronesian Games in Pohnpei later this month.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

A send-off ceremony for the CNMI Team heading to Pohnpei for the 8th Micronesian Games took place yesterday at Kanoa Resort.

Gov. Eloy Inos led the well wishers for the CNMI delegation, while Tan Siu Lin Foundation threw in its support to the Commonwealth bets by donating $10,000 to athletes and officials. Each delegate gets $100 allowance from the foundation. Tan Holdings president Jerry Tan turned over the ceremonial check to Northern Marianas Sports Association president and CNMI Team chef de mission Michael White yesterday with Inos witnessing the presentation.

"The foundation thought of ways to help the CNMI Team going to Pohnpei and we decided to give $100 not only to the athletes, but also to the officials.

See CNMI on Page 26

Germany shatters Brazil's World Cup dream

BELO HORIZONTE, Brazil (AP)—It was a humiliating home defeat of record proportions that no Brazilian could have seen coming.

With its defense collapsing early and nobody able to spark the attack, Brazil conceded four goals in a seven-minute span, trailed 5-0 at half time and was routed 7-1 by Germany in the World Cup semifinals on Tuesday.

"We got lost a little bit there," Brazil's stand-in captain David Luiz said. Germany "realized the game was there for the taking and scored the goals. "It's very difficult to explain right now. The dream is over, in a way that the people didn't want."

Brazil's most heartbreaking World Cup defeat had been a 2-1 loss to Uruguay in the last match of the 1950 World Cup that it hosted. The loss to Germany ranks right up there with that painful defeat.

Fans were in shock, some leaving way before the final whistle.

The Brazilian crowd that had been supporting the national team throughout the tournament jeered loudly after the match, and again when the players raised their hands to applaud them. Luiz kneeled on the ground and prayed, with his arms and index fingers pointed up. Oscar, who scored Brazil's

See GERMANY on Page 26

AP

Brazil's Oscar, bottom, is comforted by Germany's Philipp Lahm during the World Cup semifinal soccer match between Brazil and Germany at the Mineirao Stadium in Belo Horizonte, Brazil, Tuesday, July 8, 2014. Germany beat Brazil, 7-1, and advanced to the final.

CNMI track squad to lean on youth athletes

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The CNMI is pinning its hopes on youth athletes in the athletics competition of the 8th Micronesian Games in Pohnpei.

The Commonwealth is sending 18 athletes to the track and field contest and majority of the members of the squad are young guns. The list includes Rachel Abrams, Lia Rangamar, Denise Samson, Friendly Joy Pena, Zarinae Sapong, Beo Ngirchongor, Brandon Phillip, Dylan Ackerman, Seiya Eda, Michael Mancao, and Jason Lampkin. Completing the team are Micro Games returnees Doris Rangamar, Sylvan Rangamar, Ronald Olopai, and Antonio Ichiou, and newcomers Jesse James, Dan Joab and Jaynard White. Elias Rangamar is the head coach, while Karatel Phillip is the team manager.

Abrams is entered in the sprints, hurdles, field events, and relay races of the Micro Games that will be held from July 20 to 30. The athletics competition will run from July 21 to 23. Lia Rangamar will also join the relays besides participating in the throwing and jumping events and hurdles, while Samson will be the CNMI's bet in middle distance runs. Sapong and Pena are both entered in sprints, jumping events, and relays, while Dolores Rangamar, who medaled in the 2006 Micronesian Games on Saipan, is back on field events.

Coach Elias Rangamar said the CNMI's women's team is capable of giving the Commonwealth several medals in this month's competition.

"Though we have only six female athletes, I think our female squad will still give us the best chance of duplicating our 2010 performance in Palau. The news of the Bennett sisters and Jacque Wonenberg pulling out of the games was a blow

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Ackerman